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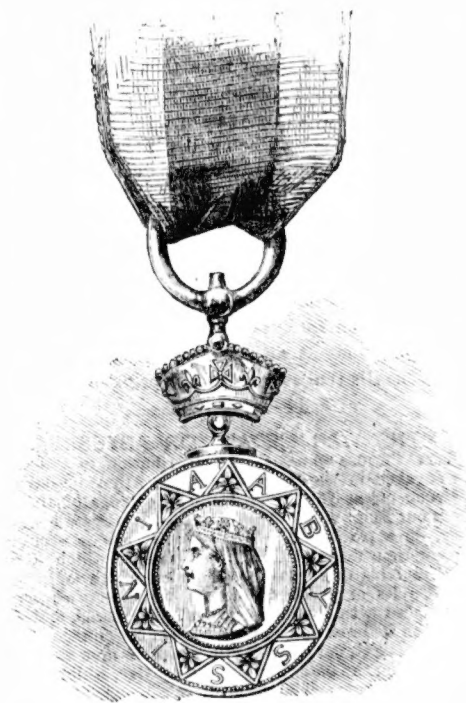
No. 766.—VOL. XV.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1869.

PRICE 3D.—STAMPED 4D

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE GAME LAWS

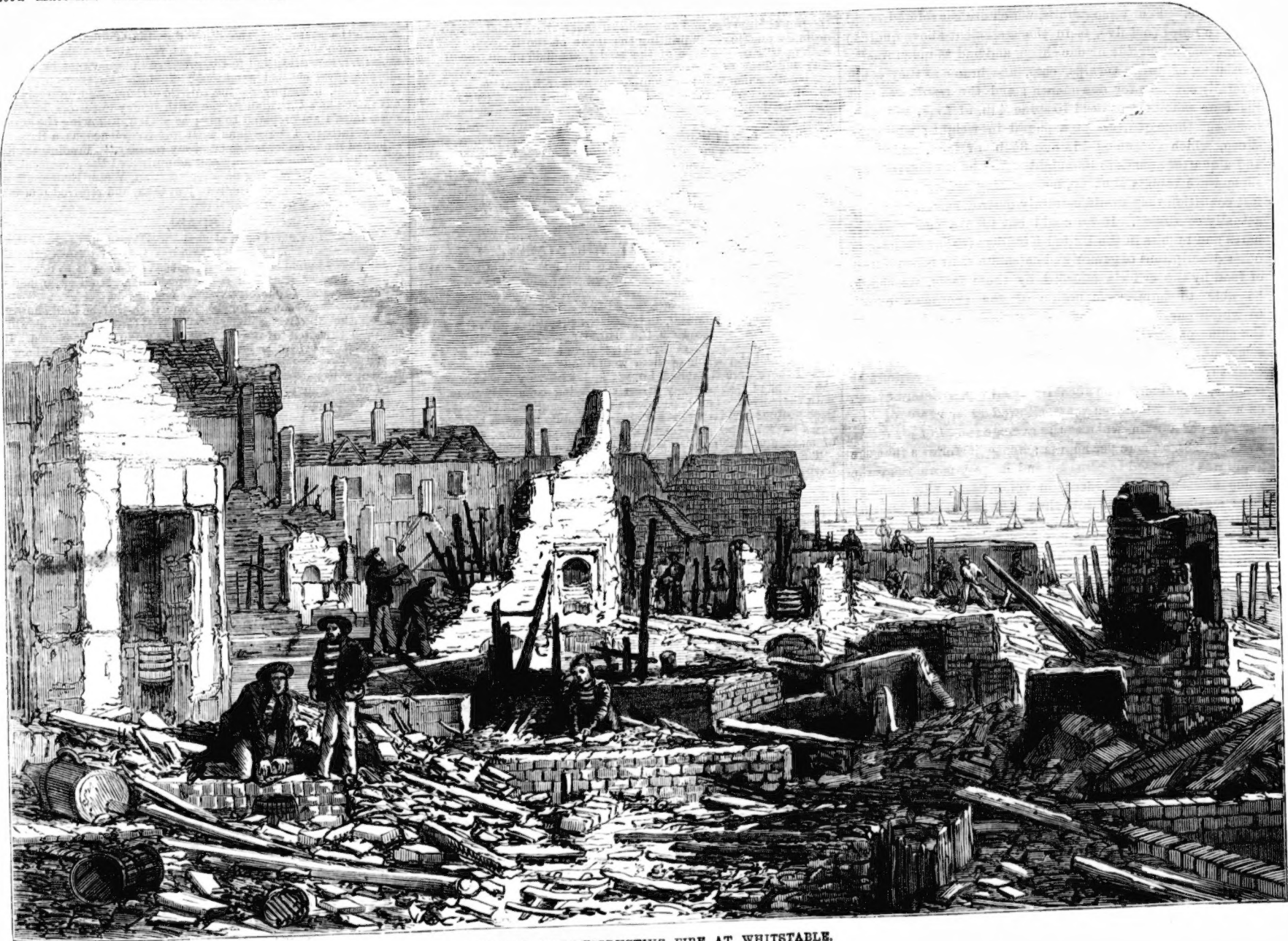
If it be true that the man is a benefactor to his kind who causes two blades of grass to grow where one only grew before, he must be something very much the reverse of a benefactor, who, to gratify his own personal passions or caprices, causes one out of every four blades of grass that grow without any effort of his to be wantonly destroyed. And his character of non-benefactor is still further intensified if, in addition to the destruction of a fourth of other men's productions, he withholds from cultivation altogether, from like motives, a large portion of soil which might otherwise be producing food and affording profitable employment for a not inconsiderable number of his fellows. That is, however, we take it, precisely the case in which game-preservers stand. The creatures they protect not only destroy a measure of the earth's produce totally disproportioned to their own real value, but, in order to provide them with shelter and breeding-grounds, a very considerable portion of the soil in Great Britain is abstracted from its legitimate use—that of raising food for man. For, let landowners gloze upon the matter and exalt their own privileges as they may, that is the prime, and indeed chief, use of the earth's surface; and consequently every member of the community—nay, every member of the human family—has an interest in its proper employment and a right to see that unduly large portions of it are not systematically diverted to other purposes, or, at least, to purposes which seriously curtail the extent of its productiveness, and thereby diminish the quantity of food materials available for the support of mankind.



THE ABYSSINIAN WAR MEDAL.

There may be times, and circumstances, and regions of the world where the economic use of the soil is of no consequence; where available space is so vast relatively to the number of its occupants, that it matters little how it is employed, seeing that there is enough and to spare for all. But that is not the case in these kingdoms and at this epoch. The extent of the soil at our command—as Mr. Stuart Mill, we think, somewhere observes—is a fixed quantity: it cannot be enlarged; its productive power is limited, for, farm as highly as we may, we can only extract a given amount of produce from the earth; and, as population increases with us more rapidly than does the power of supplying man's wants, whatever tends to diminish the food-supply is to be deprecated, and whoever causes that diminution commits a crime against society at large. That game-preserving, as at present practised in this country, does have the effect of diminishing, in both the ways we have mentioned, the food-supply of the community, and is, therefore, a robbery—albeit it is legalised, and it may be unconsciously committed—we think it will not be difficult to show.

That game—especially hares and rabbits, the most pernicious of the creatures that come under theegis of the game laws—is terribly destructive of the farmers' crops wherever it is protected to an "immoderate extent," as the phrase runs, is now all but universally admitted; and it is also all but universally admitted that over-preservation is now the rule, and moderate preservation the rare exception—if, indeed, the words "moderate preservation" be really applicable to the existing state of affairs at all. As we



SCENE OF THE DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT WHITSTABLE.



showed last week, game-preserving has received a great development of late years—has, indeed, become an important source of profit to landowners, but, at the same time, a source of grievous loss to farmers and the general community. Mr. Phillippo, to whose pamphlets on the game laws we referred last week, narrates several instances of the difference of produce in periods of high and of low preservation. In one case, at the commencement of a lease of twenty-one years of a farm overrun with hares and rabbits, the produce was only 3½ coombs of wheat and 5½ coombs of barley, on an average, per acre. Preservation was discontinued, the vermin were destroyed, and the result was that at the end of the term the average products had risen to 8½ coombs of wheat and 17 coombs of barley per acre. From which it appears that the game consumed more than half the entire crop of cereals. But, supposing that something was due to improved farming, it may safely be calculated that a third less food found its way into the market, and thence to the mouths of hungry people, when game-preserving was practised than when it was not. Mr. Phillippo's own experience, however, more fully verifies the extent to which crops suffer from game. He says:—

In 1842, when I came into possession of my estate at the decease of my father, I got but 4½ coombs of wheat per acre and 6½ coombs of barley, on an average. As I was walking over my farm one day with my co-executor (a magistrate for the county), he was astonished to see the injury that had been occasioned by the game, and strongly advised me to take out a certificate, as he said I had a right to protect my own property. I took his advice and procured one, and likewise bought two dozen traps, and went to work in earnest. And now mark the difference! Only the next harvest (1843) I grew 10½ coombs of wheat per acre, and 12½ coombs of barley, on an average, exactly 6 coombs of grain per acre more. My grasses (or hay) and turnips were scarcely touched, and consequently there was a great increase in them; and in addition to this I sold upwards of £30 worth of game to the licensed dealers.

A witness before Mr. Bright's Committee of the House of Commons on the game laws declared that in one year 2500 hares were killed (the average in former years had only been 500) in his neighbourhood, 2000 of which, he considered, had been fed on his farm and at his expense, and that his loss by game that year alone on two farms could not be less than £1000. The same gentleman further averred that he had seen turnip crops injured by hares to the extent of one half; and he unhesitatingly declared that, if his landlord were to ask him to keep five hares running about his farm or one sheep penned up and fed for him, he would infinitely prefer the latter alternative, and he thought there was not one farmer in two hundred but would do the same. Now, as five hares will not, at the ordinary market price, bring more than half the price of a sheep, and will certainly not yield a third of the food materials, the loss to all concerned, but especially to the food consumer, by keeping hares instead of sheep, is palpable.

The matter, however, has been tested by experience, and has thereby been taken out of the region of estimate or conjecture. Four tame rabbits, which are considered equal to three hares (not five, as in the statement above quoted) were placed alongside of one sheep, and had as much food—consisting of swede turnips, oats, and bran—as they could severally consume for one month; and the result was that the four rabbits consumed 15 stone 4 lb. of food, and only increased three quarters of a pound in weight; while the sheep, which consumed 15 stone 3½ lb. of food, added five and a quarter pounds to its weight. And be it observed that these were rabbits shut up, not roaming at large, in which last condition they would certainly destroy as much as they actually consumed. If we could but take a census of the hares and rabbits in the United Kingdom (to say nothing of other descriptions of game), and calculate their consumption of food by the criteria afforded by these facts, we should be able to form some notion of the enormous extent to which our butchers' and bakers' bills are inflated by the game-preserving mania of British landowners. Indeed, some of these gentlemen themselves admit the terrible extent of the mischief by the compensation they grant to tenants, the value of one ducal Derbyshire proprietor having, on an average of eleven years, allowed at the rate of 31s. per acre per annum, whereas the average rental of his estate was only 28s. an acre per annum; hence it follows that the game was presumed to consume and destroy more than the value of the rental—indeed, in some cases, the damage done was valued at no less than £10 per acre. Another landlord (he was a Scottish magnate, whose constant disputes with his tenants on this matter of game we ourselves well remember) was in the habit of allowing in one year as much as £1000 for injury done to corn and turnip crops on an estate of 1059 acres, Scots measure. A third landlord (a reverend gentleman he was) owned an estate of 3800 acres in Norfolk, 400 acres of which were game preserves; and he allowed, he said, though his tenants denied the statement, a deduction from the letting value of his farms of 10 per cent in consideration of the game, of which he annually sold upwards of £400 worth, besides what he gave away and consumed in his own household. Now as, by a late return of the state of the land in the kingdom, it appears that there were 19,135,990 acres of arable and gardens, and 28,086,980 acres of meadows, pastures, and marshes, if we reckon that the product of those 47,222,970 acres of more or less cultivated or cultivatable land be deteriorated by game to the extent of only 10 per cent (the reverend proprietor's allowance) we obtain another peep at the enormous loss the community sustains by game-preserving. If it be said that all this is the affair of landlords and tenants, to be adjusted in the scale of rents charged and paid, we answer, "Not so; the food destroyed before it

reaches the consumer adds so much more to the cost of that brought to market, and in that proportion diminishes the share of each member of the community by restricting his purchasing power. The farmer, as a rule, is victimised in the first instance; but as he must recoup himself for his loss by charging more for what he does bring to market, the consumer in the end is the greatest sufferer." And it is truly awful to think of the extent to which the privations of millions are intensified by the blind selfishness and short-sighted policy of the comparatively few game-preservers.

The destruction caused by game on the land that is cultivated does not, however, great as that is, exhaust the sum of the mischief game-preserving produces. By the return above quoted it appears that of the entire surface of the kingdom 30,871,463 acres were occupied by woods, game preserves, and waste. Now if we reckon that one third of this was game preserves, it follows that upwards of 10,000,000 acres were thus deducted from the food-producing resources of the country, less, of course, the value, as food material, of the game reared, which, as we have seen, is comparatively inconsiderable. And if we further calculate that each of those 10,000,000 acres would have maintained an average family, it follows that 10,000,000 families in Great Britain are annually defrauded, in this shape alone, of their fair share of the fruits of the earth. Surely, in the face of such facts as these, it is high time that a stop were put to the ruinous practice of game-preserving as at present carried on. We were wont, a few years ago, to hear a great deal of talk about the danger of being dependent on foreigners for our food supply, and we hear a great deal of talk now, with, we regret to say, too much reason, about bad trade, dear food, and consequent distress; but were game-preserving abandoned and the land brought into cultivation that is now devoted to the rearing and sheltering of mere vermin, we should speedily find ourselves in a great degree relieved of dependence on foreigners as well as delivered from the curse of provisions at all but famine prices, and the many and grievous ills that state of affairs brings in its train.

THE WAR MEDAL FOR ABYSSINIA.

TWENTY THOUSAND medals for distribution to the troops and others engaged in the late operations in Abyssinia have recently been struck off at the Royal Mint. The design of the medal is shown in our Engraving. The obverse comprises the head of her Majesty, on a plain field. The Queen's brow is encircled by a diadem of rich workmanship, from beneath which a veil falls in graceful folds down to the shoulder, which is partly represented. Circles of jewels encircle her Majesty's neck, and the bust is placed within an inner ring slightly raised, and engraved, or dotted, on its inner circumference. On the outside of this ring or frame for the Royal portrait is a series of nine vandykes, their apexes touching the outer and protecting edge, which also is finely engraved. The pyramidal form of the floreated vandykes gives a starlike appearance to the design. The legend consists simply of the one word "Abyssinia." The letters are placed between the vandykes, and therefore at some distance from each other. The reverse consists of an admirably-executed wreath of laurel leaves, united at the base by a ribbon, and placed between the protecting edge and an engraved inner ring. Contrary to the ordinary practice of imprinting the name of the recipient and his rank or title on the edge of the medal, the field or surface of the disc will bear that inscription in the present instance. Thus the recipient's name will be encompassed by laurels, and made patent to all observers, like the words "one shilling" on a coin of that denomination. The medal is of silver slightly finer than standard, its diameter being 1½ in., its weight ½ oz., and its intrinsic value 3s. 10½d. It was impossible to avoid a delay of two or three months before the medals could be lettered, clasped, ribboned, and made ready for distribution. Every medal has had to be twice or thrice struck between the dies before completion. Messrs. Wyon, of Regent-street, designed the medal, which was approved by Mr. Owen Jones; and Messrs. Wyon also engraved the dies.

GREAT FIRE AT WHITSTABLE.

ON the evening of Wednesday, the 10th inst., an alarming and destructive fire occurred in the town of Whitstable, by which not less £10,000 worth of property was destroyed. The conflagration commenced in the centre of a large block of wooden buildings used as workshops, store-houses, and business premises; and the wind blowing fresh at the time, the flames spread with marvellous rapidity. In a very short time no less than seventy buildings were burning, and the whole of them were totally consumed. Twenty-five of these were inhabited houses, and with very few exceptions the occupiers lost all they possessed, having time only to escape with their lives. The houses were mostly small, and occupied by poor people; the larger ones included a public-house, a beerhouse, and a baker's shop and premises. The workshops, &c., were those of mast and sail makers, and contained much valuable property. The fire originated in a stack of furze faggots, and is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. The subjoined appeal on behalf of the sufferers has been put forth by the local Church and Dissenting clergy:—

SIR,—Your readers have lately had before them accounts of the sad fire which has recently devastated a portion of the town of Whitstable. Besides the destruction of about seventy storehouses for fishermen's gear, &c., some twenty-five dwelling-houses and workshops were ruined, of which several were occupied by persons of the poorest class, whose household goods were totally uninsured. Owing to the furious progress of the fire, many of these had barely time to save themselves and their children, bringing away with them literally nothing but the night-clothes in which they stood. A list has been made out of these sufferers, in which fifteen cases of peculiar hardship are set forth, involving more than seventy persons, young and old, in the calamity. We cannot take up your space in particularising these cases; enough to say that some are of singular distress, such as an aged widow losing everything, and scarcely escaping with life; mariners' wives, whose husbands were away at sea, suddenly turned out of house and home in the dead of night; men thrown out of work through the loss of tools. A town's meeting has been called, at which a subscription list was opened and well started. A canvass of all the inhabitants able to help has been organised. A committee has also been formed from among the leading inhabitants, whose duty it will be to thoroughly investigate all cases of distress, and to expend any subscriptions received, not in money gifts, but in replacing the most necessary of the goods lost—clothing, bedding, furniture, tools. But, owing to the magnitude of the losses, we find it necessary to appeal to the kind-hearted among the public at large. And we ask you, Sir, to give us this opportunity of making our appeal known through your columns. The oyster fishery here and the colliery trade, which are the two mainstays of the place, are in a depressed state—add to this great losses in the shipping in the severe gales of the two last winters—so that the inhabitants cannot do what they would wish. We hope, therefore, that the public will kindly help in this Christian work of succouring the destitute; and we should be quite sure of the generous aid of the charitably-disposed among your readers if they could only see the sad faces of these poor people, as they tell of the loss of the little which they ever possessed, and describe the desolation of those homes, which are as dear to them as their mansions are to the wealthiest. We write this at the request of the committee, in whose behalf we will thankfully receive and acknowledge any gifts of money or of clothes, &c. Subscriptions will also be received by Messrs. Hammond and Co., bankers, Whitstable.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor presided at a Council of Ministers at Compiègne, on Sunday, and afterwards reviewed the regiments of Zouaves and Carabiniers of the Guards.

Baron Werther, Ambassador and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Prussia and the North German Confederation, was officially received by the Emperor Napoleon at Compiègne on Monday last. The speeches delivered on the occasion were of the usual complimentary character.

The *Journal Officiel* publishes some decrees respecting the relations between the Government, the Senate, and the Legislative Body, from which it appears that Ministers are to remain, as before the *Senatus Consultum*, simple clerks of the executive power. All the bills drawn up in the various Ministerial departments are to be submitted to the Emperor, who will either hand them over to the President of the Council of State himself or charge the Minister with this formality. After the examination of the bills by the Council of State they will not be returned to the Minister, but to the Emperor, and will be transmitted by his Majesty to the Corps Législatif.

The Left met, on Sunday evening, at the house of M. Jules Favre, and agreed on a manifesto in which its future policy is clearly traced out. The deputies of the Left, in the first place, intimate their intention to discuss matters quietly, and to make no appeal to force unless an attempt should be made to stifle their voices. They declare that the recent elections have proved that the country is tired of personal government, and announce their intention of questioning Ministers on the troubles of June and the events of Aubin and Récamerie. They demand the repeal of art. 75, which shelters all authorities from prosecution; and declare that the Administration should no longer preserve a right of which it has made a scandalous usage—namely, that of reforming electoral districts. They further demand the abolition of the military law of 1868, to be replaced by a system for arming the whole nation for the defence of the country and its free institutions, and the right of declaring war as a national prerogative. As regards the press, they call for the abolition of the caution money and the stamp tax, demand that the right of association be proclaimed, and the arbitrary trammels appended to the right of meeting repealed. The Left terminate by rejecting the *Mandat Impératif* as a heresy; the elective principle, they say, which alone resists revolutions, guarantees order, and is called to transform from base to summit the institutions of the country, should neither be corrupted by a monarch nor degraded by the violence of the demagogue. To this important document twenty-seven deputies have affixed their signatures; Messrs. Gambetta, Bancel, Pelletan, Jules Simon, and Esquiros, all suspected of want of moderation, and inclining to form a separate camp, have reconsidered the matter, and have adhered to the Opposition programme. The manifesto meets with very general acceptance.

At an electoral meeting which took place in Paris, on Monday evening, one of the speakers read a letter written by a candidate whose name he said he would mention afterwards. The letter proved to be highly eulogistic of Republican Government, and was received with very loud cheers. At this point the Commissary of Police interfered, and declared the meeting dissolved. The speaker thereupon announced that the writer of the letter was Louis Napoleon, the present Emperor of the French. Much disorder followed, and the meeting broke up with shouts of "Vive la République!"

ITALY.

The King has recommenced signing decrees. A Commission of five Senators will open Parliament, and the Minister of Justice will read the Speech from the Throne.

Princess Margherita gave birth to a son on the 11th inst. Both mother and infant are doing well. The Prince has received the names of Victor Emmanuel Ferdinand, and the title of Prince of Naples.

A Royal decree has been issued granting an amnesty to political offenders and to persons implicated in the grist-tax riots.

The Italian papers state, that when Victor Emmanuel wished to receive the sacrament, the other day, his Chaplain, acting under orders from the Archbishop of Pisa, requested his Majesty to promise first, in writing and in the presence of two witnesses, to repeal all the laws he had sanctioned against the Church. Victor Emmanuel, according to the *Gazzetta d'Italia*, said, in reply:—"I have lived as a Christian in the faith of my ancestors, and in the same faith I am prepared to die; as a King, following the example of my fathers, I have done what my conscience as a Sovereign enjoined me to do for the good of my country." Finding the King firm, the Chaplain gave way and administered the sacrament. The Archbishop still insisting on a retraction, Victor Emmanuel said he would not talk upon politics just then, and referred him to the Ministers who were in the palace.

SPAIN.

Admiral Topete has been elected Vice-President of the Cortes by 133 votes against 5. General Prim has informed the Cortes that the deputies Caimo and Suner have been condemned to death. The deputy Ameller has been condemned to perpetual exile, and the deputy Serrallera to twelve years' confinement.

It is expected that at the elections which will be held shortly to fill up the thirty vacant seats in the Cortes members will be returned prepared to vote in favour of the Duke of Genoa. It is estimated that then the number of votes for the Duke will amount to 200. The Ministerial journals assert that the Duke of Genoa, if elected, will accept the crown.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Cortes the Minister of the Colonies read a despatch from Havannah announcing that the insurgents in the eastern portion of the island have been defeated by the Government troops, leaving 250 dead on the field of battle. The despatch adds that the insurrection is decreasing, and that public confidence is reviving in Havannah.

The Bishop of Havannah has been arrested at Cadiz, with a considerable sum of money for the Carlist chiefs in his possession.

PRUSSIA.

The Upper House of the Prussian Diet finally discussed and adopted, on Monday, a resolution proposed by Count von Munster, which declares the granting of the concession for a lottery loan of 10,000,000 thalers to be incompatible with the welfare of the State. The House also passed the bill fixing twenty-one years as the age at which Prussian subjects shall henceforth attain their majority.

RUSSIA.

A special commission has been appointed in connection with the second division of the Imperial Chancellery, for the purpose of revising the existing censorship and press regulations.

EGYPT.

On Tuesday the inauguration fêtes of the Suez Canal commenced by religious ceremonies in the open air, according to the rites of the Christian and Mohammedan religions. The Khedive, the Empress of the French, the Emperor of Austria, the Princes of Prussia, Holland, and Hesse were present amongst an immense assemblage of distinguished visitors. A telegram from Ismailia, dated Wednesday evening, says:—"The Imperial yacht *Aigle*, with the Empress Eugénie on board; the Austrian, Prussian, and Dutch Royal yachts, with their respective Princes; the *Peych*, with the English Ambassadors and Admiral on board, followed by the *Newport* and *Rapid*, in all a fleet of forty vessels, arrived here this afternoon from Port Said, and are now at their moorings. The journey through this half of the canal has been performed in eight hours. Four good-sized steamers have likewise arrived here from Suez to-day. The maritime canal has thus been traversed by sea-going vessels throughout. Great rejoicings and festivities are taking place. Ismailia is splendidly illuminated. The Khedive and his Royal guest are expected to land here to-night."

PARAGUAY.

Warlike operations have once more recommenced in Paraguay

against the indomitable Lopez, who, having escaped amidst the confusion of the last defeat of his forces, once more stands at bay. Count d'Eu started against him from Rosario on the 8th ult., and by the 20th the vanguard of his army had occupied St. Joaquil.

CANADA.

The French residents in the Red River country have armed and banded themselves together to resist the cession of their territory to Canada. They forcibly compelled the Governor, Mr. McDougall, to cross the boundary into Dakota territory, where he now awaits armed assistance or instructions from the Canadian Government. The insurgents demand separate territorial government and an elective Legislature.

THE POPE AND NON-CATHOLICS.

THE subjoined letter from the Pope to Archbishop Manning, in reference to the Oecumenical Council and non-Catholics, has been published this week:—

TO OUR VENERABLE BROTHER HENRY EDWARD ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER.

Venerable Brother, Health and the Apostolic Blessing.—Having said, in the letter which we addressed to you, Venerable Brother, on the fourth day of September last, that subjects which had already been carefully examined and decided by an Oecumenical Council could not again be called in question, that therefore no place could be given in the approaching council for any defence of errors which had been condemned, and that for this reason we could not have invited non-Catholics to a discussion, we now learn that some of those who dissent from our faith have so understood those words as to believe that no way is left open to them of making known the difficulties which keep them separated from the Catholic Church, and that almost all approach to us is cut off. But so far are we, the vicar upon earth, although unworthy, of Him who came to save that which was lost, from repelling them in any way whatever, that we even go forth to meet them; and nothing do we seek for with a more ardent wish than to be able to stretch out our arms with a father's love to anyone who shall return to us. And never, certainly, have we wished to impose silence upon those who, misled by their education, and believing their opinions to be right, think that their dissent from us rests upon strong arguments which they would wish to be examined by wise and prudent men. For, although this cannot be done in the Council, there will not be wanting learned divines, appointed by ourselves, to whom they may open their minds, and may with confidence make known the reasons of their own belief; so that even out of the contest of a discussion, undertaken solely with a desire of finding out the truth, they may receive a more abundant light to guide them to it! And may very many propose this to themselves and carry it out in good faith. For it could not be done without great profit to themselves and to others; to themselves, indeed, because God will show His face to those who seek Him with their whole heart, and will give them what they long for; to others, because, not only the example of eminent men cannot fail of its efficacy, but also the more diligently they shall have laboured to obtain the benefit of truth, the more earnestly will they strive to impart the same benefit to the rest. Earnestly praying the God of Mercy for this most happy issue, we desire you to receive, Venerable Brother, the apostolic blessing, which, as a token of the Divine favour and of our own especial goodwill, we most lovingly grant to you and to your whole diocese.—Given at St. Peter's in Rome, on the fortieth day of October, 1869, in the twenty-fourth year of our Pontificate.

POPE PIUS IX.

NEW PEERS.—Peerages are understood to have been offered to the following noblemen and gentlemen:—The Earl of Southesk, the Earl of Listowel, Lord Edward Howard; the Right Hon. J. Fitzpatrick, M.P.; Sir John Acton, Bart.; C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., M.P.; Colonel Greville-Nugent, M.P.; George Carr Glyn, Esq.; T. Agar Robartes, Esq.; and Edward Ellice, Esq., M.P. Mr. Ellice, however, prefers his seat in the House of Commons as M.P. for St. Andrew's to a seat in the House of Lords. It is said that peerages have also been offered to, and declined by, Mr. W. B. Beaumont, member for South Northumberland, and Dr. George Grote, F.R.S., the eminent historian of Greece.

LOSS OF THE ROYAL STANDARD.—Advises from Rio Janeiro contain particulars of the loss of the passenger-ship, the Royal Standard, on her outward voyage from London to Melbourne. The vessel sailed on Aug. 12 from Gravesend, with about eighty persons on board, including twenty-eight passengers. The vessel was wrecked on a sandbank off Cape St. Thomas on Oct. 10. Eight passengers were drowned in the surf in attempting a landing, and twelve others, with a considerable portion of the crew, left the wreck on a raft, and have not since been heard of. Mr. Dummett, a shipbroker of Mincing-lane, was saved; but his wife and five children, whose ages varied from fifteen to three, were lost. Two other ladies, Miss Soddard, daughter of a clergyman of Camden Town, and Miss Lawrence, of Sheerness, were also drowned. The sufferings of those who succeeded in reaching the shore were terrible.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—The Rev. R. W. Dale, of Birmingham, writes to the President of the National Education League that, after considerable hesitation, he has concluded to give in his adhesion to the National Education League. "I believe," he says, "that the only true and permanent basis of an efficient system of national education is to be found in unsectarian schools, established and maintained by local rates, supplemented by Government grants; that local authorities should be compelled by law to see that sufficient school accommodation is provided for every child in their district; and that all schools maintained wholly or in part by national funds should be subject to Government inspection. I am also fully persuaded that it is the duty of the nation to protect the right of every child to receive a certain measure of secular education. The only proposal of the League to which I cannot connect myself is that which involves the indiscriminate abolition of school fees. On this point I must reserve my freedom."

THE "THREE TAILORS."—The *Manchester Examiner*, under this head, says:—"A meeting was convened by the Rector of Whitby, a fortnight ago, to protest against the appointment of Dr. Temple. A memorial to that effect was adopted, and the following letter has been received from Mr. W. E. Gladstone in reply:—"11, Carlton House-terrace, Nov. 9, 1869.—Sir,—I have received and examined with care a memorial which you have been good enough to transmit to me adopted at 'a public meeting of the inhabitants of Whitby' against the nomination of Dr. Temple to the Bishopric of Exeter. Not having received or heard of any representation adverse to this nomination from the Episcopal Bench, or from the caputular body, who are by law invited and charged to elect, or from the major part of the clergy of the diocese, or from any town or community, either in the diocese or elsewhere, I was much struck on finding that, according to the paper which you have transmitted, the inhabitants of Whitby had assembled in a public meeting, to give expression to their sentiments on this occasion. In answer to a memorial from such meeting, I should with great respect have endeavoured to point out misapprehensions with regard to Dr. Temple, under which the parties to it appear to lie; and to show that their opinions, although I could not adopt them, were not a matter of indifference to me. But from the apparent peculiarity of the case, I was led to make some inquiry, and I have now been informed that the meeting in question was not a meeting of the town of Whitby at all, but was a meeting called in a schoolroom, addressed principally or exclusively by the rector and other clergy, and never attended at any one time by more than sixteen persons. If this is so, it appears to me that the meeting has been, of course unintentionally, misdescribed."

TRADE AND STRIKES IN FRANCE.—We commend the following extract of a letter from Paris to the careful consideration of those persons who clamour so loudly about British trade having been ruined by the French Treaty. It is in possible that the same mischief can have been caused in both countries by the same agency—that British trade can have been destroyed by French competition and French trade by British competition at one and the same time. There must be a mistake somewhere:—"The provincial papers again speak of strikes at Lyons, Marseilles, the manufacturing towns of the Rhône, the Loire, &c. At Lyons the weavers of silk demand higher wages. In their meetings they tell the manufacturer that lodgings and food have so much augmented that their wages no longer suffice. In most of the large towns of France the extensive improvements which have been carried on by the system of city loans impose on the populations very heavy local taxation. Consumable articles pay a double duty on entering the town. House rent has risen in proportion. Then comes the question in the manufacturing towns of increased wages, and then follows—'How can we compete with foreign silk and cotton goods if the cost of their production is materially augmented?' It is a much more complicated affair, these *grèves*, as we call the strikes in France, than at first sight appears. During the present year nearly all trades have had their strikes, and in most instances higher wages have followed. But some economists declare that the evil has reached such a point as to threaten to drive some classes of goods out of the foreign markets. There is immense competition going on in all woven goods in the European markets. The principles of free trade have opened commercial relations which never existed before to any extent; such as Austria, for example. The home manufacturer therefore can only compete with foreign goods by producing them at a price which, with his yet existing limited protection tariff, enables him to come into the market on equal terms with the foreigner. High wages, some argue, may prevent him doing so. If these strikes continue (they are not confined to France), will they not favour protection? If high wages in France eventually affect the export trade, will not the manufacturer and workman ask to supply the whole of the domestic trade of the country by means of protecting tariffs? The increased cost of living all over the Continent is producing a crisis in many branches of industry with which reduced tariffs are inevitably identified."

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE IN THE EAST.

CONTINUING the narrative of the visit of the Empress of the French to the East, we have to state that on Sunday, Oct. 17, at eleven a.m., her Majesty entered Pera for the first time; and, after receiving an address at the triumphal arch erected in the Grand Rue, attended high mass in the Armeno-Catholic Church of St. Marie, which was both tastefully and magnificently decorated for the occasion. On the arrival of her Majesty at the church, eight of the principal Armenian laymen presented her, according to an ancient custom, with gold and silver cups containing rare perfumes; after which she advanced, with her suite, to the throne prepared for her at the right of the altar. The ceremony was worthy of the City of the Seven Hills itself, some twenty Archbishops and Bishops having come to do honour to the wife of the Eldest Son of the Church. These prelates were chiefly Armeno-Catholic dignitaries from different parts of the Turkish empire—Erzeroum, Trebizond, Brussa, Angora, Kharpout, Mount Lebanon, &c.; besides whom there were two Greek-Catholic Bishops, a Bulgarian Catholic Archimandrite, and two Mektarist Archbishops (one from Venice, the other from Vienna). The service was intoned in the Armenian chant, with flute or reed accompaniment, and presented some very striking effects, particularly when the Empress stepped from her throne to kiss the Gospel, presented to her by Monsgr. Kaloupijan, Archbishop of Amasia. After the mass was concluded, the Armenian Patriarch read an address from the altar. The following is a translation of the address, which has a greater significance than may at first sight appear:—

Madam.—In coming to pray in this church, your Majesty has deigned to give the Armeno-Catholic community a proof of your august and supreme goodwill, the memory of which will always attach to this sanctuary and be remembered amongst us. I join my humble voice to that of the prelates who surround this holy altar in imploring the Creator of all things to shed His most abundant blessings upon your Majesty, upon the Emperor, the faithful ally of our well-beloved Sovereign the Sultan, and upon your glorious nation, whose hopes and affections are centred in your son. These prayers, Madam, we associate with those which come from the bottom of our hearts for the Sultan, our august Sovereign, whose reign will be illustrious for the inauguration of those great principles of civilisation which have assured the liberty of the Church and the happiness of his people without distinction of race or creed. It is, in fact, to these favours that we owe the signal honour which has been conferred upon us by your Majesty, whose piety, graciousness, and generosity have decorated this humble church with so magnificent a gift as that which now adorns its walls.

After the address was read the Bishops descended from the altar. The Empress left her throne, and, prostrating herself before the Patriarch, who still remained, saluted, and received the apostolical benediction. Her Majesty then left the church, and subsequently proceeded to the French Embassy, and in the evening dined with the Sultan at Dolmabahatché, where the whole of the foreign representatives and their wives, the chief Ministers of the Porte, and sons-in-law of the late Sultan were invited. Next day her Majesty received, at Beylerbey, the wives of Aali Pacha (Grand Vizier), Mustapha Fazil Pacha, Djamil Pacha, Raouf Pacha, Kiamil Pacha, and other dignitaries of the Porte; and in the afternoon made an excursion, accompanied by the Sultan and a numerous suite, to the hills of Alem-Dagh, whence one of the best views of the surrounding scenery is obtained. On Tuesday all these splendid fêtes came to an end; and on Oct. 19 the beautiful *Franza Imperatrizassy* was borne in the Aigle past the Golden Horn, and lost to sight behind the heights of the Seraglio.

The Empress arrived at Alexandria early on the morning of the 22nd, and disappointed the French colony there by going direct to Cairo, where she arrived at 2.30 p.m., and was driven, sitting in a carriage with the Viceroy, through the Ezbekieh on her way to the palace on the island opposite Bulak. Various forms of entertainment were designed in the Empress's honour: illuminations for three nights, which, however, were only on a partial scale, and principally at the cost of Government; then a marriage in high life between a gentleman and lady, who were ordered by the Viceroy to marry expressly for the occasion and at his expense, and who were married accordingly, much to the satisfaction of the Empress, if not of themselves; and, lastly, a corresponding ceremony in low life. The Zeffeh, or pageant, with its usual accompaniment of buffoonery—including a good-sized boat on wheels, with three pairs of oars and rowers; a reis, who sounded his way through the streets with a long sugar-cane; and a company of singers in the stern sheets, drawn ostensibly by a single bullock, but in reality by about a hundred boys on each side, who, when ordered to advance, pulled boat, bullock, and everything along bodily—took its way through the town from the Rumeileh to the Ezbekieh, where, opposite to the new opera-house, it was met and literally joined for a short distance by the Empress and the Viceroy on street donkeys, which was much to the delight of the small boys and people who were moving with the show, and talked of by them with evident satisfaction afterwards.

Her Majesty subsequently departed on a tour up the Nile, but returned in time to be present at the opening of the Suez Canal on Wednesday.

FUNERAL OF MR. PEABODY.

As we mentioned last week, the remains of the late Mr. Peabody were, on Friday, Nov. 12, committed to a temporary resting-place beneath the nave of Westminster Abbey, in the presence of the representatives of his native and of his adopted country. The American Minister was among the mourners; and the Premier and Foreign Secretary of England stood by the side of the grave into which the coffin was lowered to await its transport to a more permanent resting-place in the United States. The city which has so largely benefited by Mr. Peabody's munificent generosity was represented by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs; and the hundreds of ladies and gentlemen who filled the venerable Abbey, within whose precincts lie buried so many of the best and bravest of our nation, testified to the high estimation in which the virtues of the deceased were held by the whole British people.

There was no large crowd at any part of the route; but before the departure of the funeral procession a very considerable number of persons had assembled in front of Sir Curtis Lampson's residence, No. 80, Eaton-square, where Mr. Peabody died; and there was a still larger muster at the western entrance to the Abbey. The funeral cortege was of the most unostentatious character. The hearse, which was drawn by four horses, was followed by five mourning-coaches, occupied by the mourners; and to these succeeded a long line of carriages, including those of her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs, Sir C. Lampson; Mr. Charles Reed, M.P.; Miss Burdett Coutts, the American Minister, Lady Franklin, &c. The route taken was through Hobart-place, Grosvenor-gardens, and Victoria-street, to Westminster Abbey. There was no great gathering of people in the streets, but as the procession passed along it was everywhere greeted with silent expressions of respect and regret. The blinds of all the houses in Eaton-square were drawn down; the windows of Buckingham Palace were similarly veiled; and few householders along the line of road failed to pay this mark of respect to the illustrious dead.

Within the Abbey the scene was most impressive and imposing. Almost every part of the edifice was filled with spectators—it would hardly be too much to say with mourners; ladies and gentlemen alike were clad in sable: the effect produced was both remarkable and solemn. Nor was the colour the only thing that which distinguished this from ordinary gatherings in churches. Everyone seemed to be under the influence of the occasion: there was neither whispering nor tittering, nor that uneasy shifting from place to place which is sometimes observable, but just a quiet hush and silence, as though even the most thoughtless and frivolous, if any such were present, were for once awed into silence and decorum. The seats of the choir were draped with black cloth, and the space between the stalls was covered with a black carpet; the pulpit and reading-desk were hung with black, and beneath the lantern was placed a bier covered with black velvet, relieved by a white border, on either side of which seats were reserved for

the mourners. The sacristium was inclosed by barriers of black cloth, and only a few highly-privileged spectators were admitted to seats within its area. Before the doors of the Abbey were opened many persons were waiting for admission, and, although there was little crowding and no confusion at the entrances, very soon every seat in nave and choir and transept was occupied, a very considerable proportion of them being ladies. Soon after twelve o'clock the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs arrived, clad in their scarlet gowns, and, accompanied by the Under-Sheriffs in plain black, at once proceeded to the seats reserved for them in the sacristium. Lord Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, General Grey, and Mr. Helps, representing her Majesty, had anticipated their arrival, and were already seated; and not long afterwards Mr. Gladstone passed quickly through the nave and took his place by the noble Earl.

The coffin was met at the entrance to the church by the Rev. Lord John Tynne, the Sub-Dean; the Rev. Canon Nepean, Archdeacon Jennings, and the members of the choir, and was followed by the mourners, prominent among whom were Sir Curtis Lampson and Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., the executors; Mr. Motley, the American Minister, and Mr. Moran, the Secretary of Legation; the United States Consul-General, and Vice-Consul in London, the Rev. T. Nolan, Dr. Gull, Messrs. W. H. Covey, H. J. Somerby, G. Lampson, H. Lampson, N. Lampson, J. Nunn, the Hon. H. Morse, Mr. R. Sturges; Mr. Crouch (Mr. Peabody's private secretary); and the valet, coachman, and footman of the deceased. In this order the procession passed up the nave, which was carpeted with black cloth, between a double row of respectful spectators, who maintained a most impressive silence. Very soon the voices of the choristers were heard in the choir; and as the leading boys appeared inside the screen, all rose from their seats to do honour—such honour as was still possible—to the remains of the good man whom they had come to honour. Slowly, very slowly, passed the procession. Choristers and choir-boys filed off on each hand, still singing as they went. An undertaker's man staggered along under a load of feathers which might well have been left outside, and then came the coffin, borne upon the shoulders of eight bearers. It was covered with a rich black velvet pall, and on the top rested a large cross formed of white camellias. It was at once placed upon the bier, the mourners took their places on the seats on each hand, and the funeral service was proceeded with. The 90th Psalm was chanted by the choir, accompanied by the organ (played by Mr. Turle), and the Archdeacon of Westminster read the lesson. Then the procession was re-formed, and the coffin with its sacred contents was borne through the choir and down the nave to the grave. Now the Sub-Dean and the members of the choir followed, instead of preceding, the coffin, and the mourners were joined by the Prime Minister, Lord Clarendon, General Grey, Mr. Helps, the Lord Mayor, and the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs. The grave had been prepared in the middle of the nave, not far from the west door, and almost in a line with the stained-glass window which commemorates the genius of the great engineer Brunel. For some space around black cloth had been spread upon the hard cold stones, and the entrance to the tomb itself was surrounded by a slightly elevated estrade, upon which the coffin was placed. Sir C. Lampson, Mr. C. Reed, and Mr. Motley took their places at the head of the grave; the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs—whose scarlet gowns presented a singular contrast to the sad-coloured garments of all around them, and the white surplices of the choristers, who occupied a platform behind them—were on its north side, and Mr. Gladstone and Lord Clarendon stood together between these two groups and close to the reading-desk prepared for the Sub-Dean. The portions of the burial service appointed to be read at the grave-side were delivered by the Rev. Lord J. Tynne with appropriate and touching emphasis; and the musical pieces, selected from the works of Croft and Purcell, were admirably performed by the choir. They were, "Thou knowest Lord" (Croft), "In the midst of life" (Purcell), and "I heard a voice from heaven" (Croft). When the Sub-Dean reached the impressive words, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," a handful of mould was thrown into the grave and rattled upon the cloth-covered lid of the coffin and the silver nails which adorned it with that terrible but indescribable sound which they who have once heard can never forget, and which, but for the reassuring words which follow, would seem to typify the shutting out of all hope of future reunion between the living and the dead. The finale was from Handel:—

His body was buried in peace,
But his name liveth evermore.

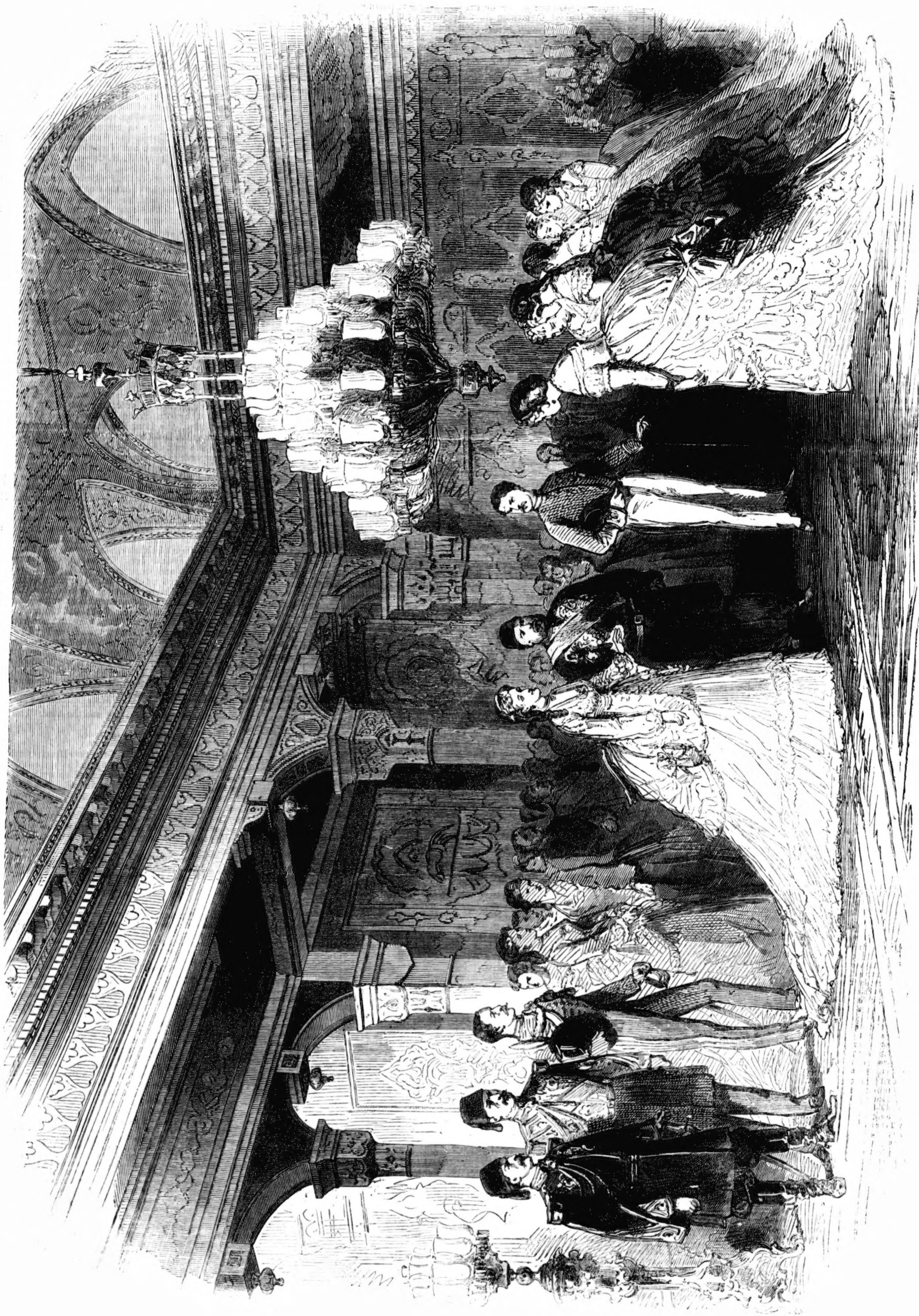
When this had been sung by the choir, the Sub-Dean pronounced the benediction, and then, so far as England is concerned, the funeral of George Peabody—a name destined to rank with the noblest of the world's benefactors—was at an end. Not hastily or willingly, however, did the mourners leave the spot. While the organ gave out the solemn strains of the Dead March in "Saul," one after another advanced to the end of the grave and gazed mournfully upon the cross of white camellias and the bright coffin-plate which told how within that narrow chest lay all that was mortal of

GEORGE PEABODY, ESQ.,
Born 18th February, 1795,
At Danvers, Massachusetts.
Died in London,
November 4, 1869.

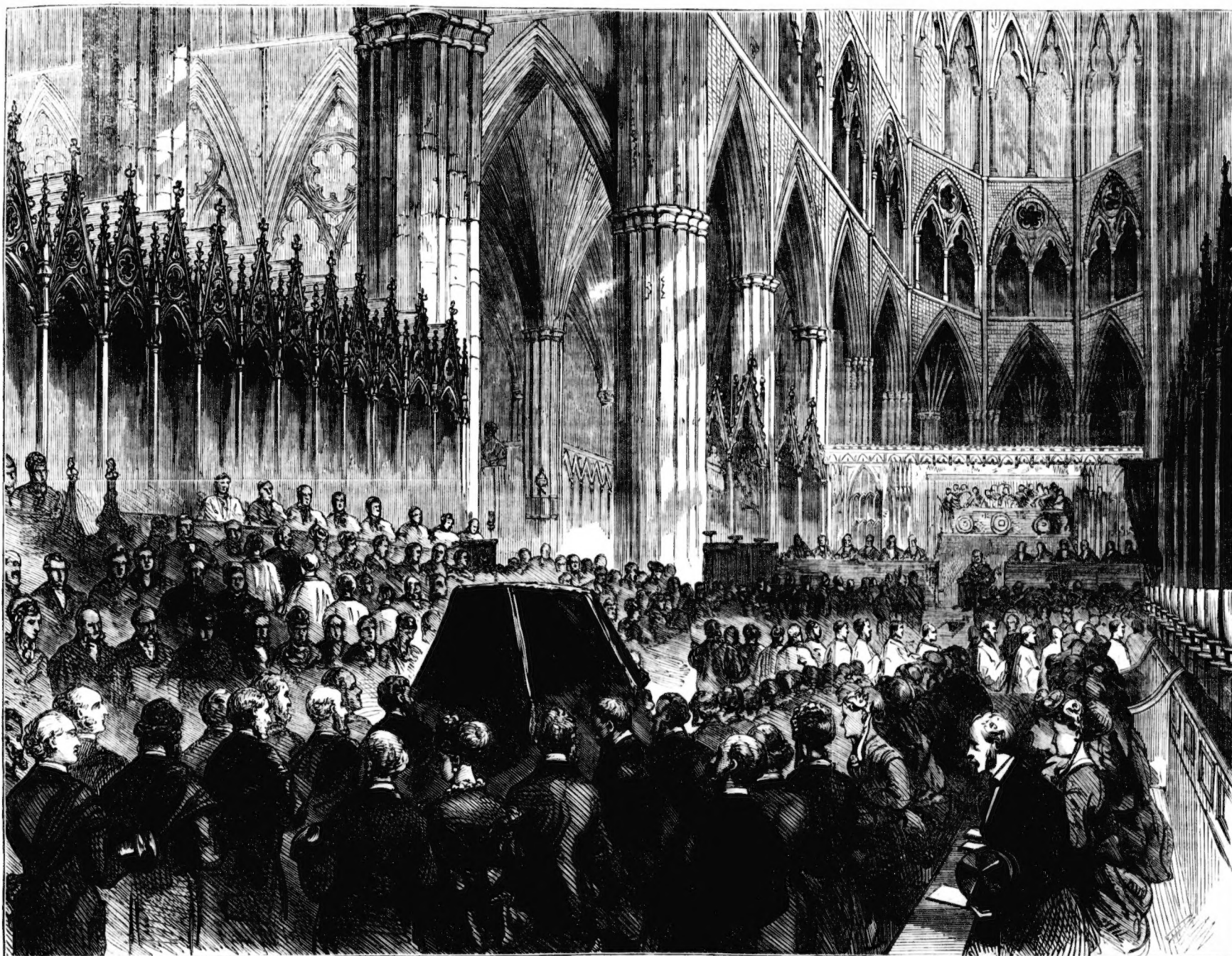
THE MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER OF EXETER who voted against Dr. Temple have made an elaborate protest against his election, chiefly on the ground of his connection with "Essays and Reviews." Bishop Trower handed in a separate protest declaring that by electing Dr. Temple the Chapter had assisted in propagating error and false doctrines; for, as Bishop of Exeter, his contribution to that volume "would help to give weight and currency to its insidious reasonings."

EXTRAORDINARY CAPTURE OF HERRINGS.—A few mornings ago, at an early hour, the inhabitants of Laytown and Bettystown, near Drogheda, were astonished to find the strand literally covered over with herrings, which were washed ashore with the tide. The beach presented the same sight as far as Maiden Tower, at the mouth of the Boyne, a distance of more than two miles. The farmers along the coast brought their carts and secured tons of the fish during the day; and the peasantry were by no means inactive, as they assembled in great numbers and carried off the herrings in sacks and baskets. On the following morning a large quantity remained on the strand on the receding of the tide, and it was found that the river Nanny, at Laytown, was absolutely crammed with herrings. Here the coastguards put out their boats and captured an immense quantity. As there were from 300 to 400 boats—many of them from the Scotch coast—engaged on Saturday last in herring-fishing in that district, it is apprehended that several of them must have been wrecked in the fearful gale which commenced on the same evening.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS AND THE EDUCATION LEAGUE.—Four thousand Roman Catholics met in the Townhall at Birmingham, on Monday night, under the presidency of Bishop Ullathorne, to express their opinions upon the education question. The Bishop denounced the scheme of the Education League as Godless. He helped to overthrow, in 1850, Fox's bill, which, except with regard to compulsion, was the same as the scheme of the League. All victims of the League the Catholics would be the chief. At a meeting of the League there was enough reference to Catholics to show that their sentiments were contemptuously put aside as unworthy of consideration. The Bishop was enthusiastically cheered in denouncing every portion of the programme of the League. He maintained that the proposed schools would be the most sectarian of all schools, representing merely the irreligious minority, such as Deists and Secularists. The scheme would raise such a conflict between power and authority as had not been seen since it was felony and forfeiture of goods for a Catholic to be a school teacher, or to send his children to Catholic schools. In America, parents withdrew children from the corrupting influence of public schools. The Irish people demanded a denominational system. The Prussian system was practically denominational. Nowhere was a system like that of the League at work, and those approaching nearest to it were under sentence of condemnation from practical experience. Lord Edward Howard moved—"That education properly so called is inseparable from religion." He agreed on all points with the Bishop. The resolution was seconded by Canon O'Sullivan, and carried. Subsequent resolutions approved of the denominational system. Lord Denbigh expressed his concurrence with the previous speakers. He declared that nobody but a fool could think of educating mankind without definite dogmatic religious instruction. The secular system would produce clever devils. He would rather see children brought up in a false religion than taught to be indifferent.



THE EMPRESS EUGENIE IN THE EAST: A GRAND RECEPTION AT CONSTANTINOPLE.



FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. PEABODY IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY: CARRYING THE BODY UP THE NAVE.



ARRIVAL OF THE EMPRESS EUGENIE AT HER RESIDENCE IN CAIRO.

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SOME TOPICS OF THE HOUR.

ONE of the pleasantest signs of the times is to be found in the fact that public opinion is seriously awakened upon the great question of the relief of the destitute. Some effective advances have been made in the discussion of the subject, and even some detailed plans suggested. These all point, in one degree or another and in different ways, to some kind of centralisation; and in dealing with scattered, abnormal fragments of the social system for one specific purpose which inevitably involves classification, it is difficult to see how we can help centralising in some degree. But one thing is clear, that the next Session of Parliament will not pass over without some attempt to revise, or at least effectively to discuss, our present policy in the matter. In the meantime voluntary experiments are being made, or are about to be made, in various quarters; so that in the course of what promises to be in every way a trying winter, with an extraordinary number of poor people out of employment, a good deal of useful experience will, no doubt, be accumulated. We mean experience as to ways and means, which is really all we want; the facts of pauperism, destitution, and mendicancy of all kinds being better known to us already than if twenty Government Commissions had sat upon them.

Mr. J. M. Ludlow, an able and experienced publicist, well known for the interest he takes in working-class questions, has been calling attention to the striking similarity between the English trade-guilds of the middle ages and some of our modern trades unions and societies of that order. The general similarity we all knew, or might take for granted; but, thanks to certain labours of a lately-deceased barrister of Birmingham—Mr. Toulmin Smith—we are about to be put in possession of some curious information, which will exhibit the details and ramifications, and probably give us some valuable instruction and suggestions. If we can take a leaf here and there out of our ancestors' books in these matters, and yet re-affirm, at the same time, the principles of free trade and freedom from social coercion, so much the better; and it seems likely that we shall really be able to do this.

Nothing, indeed, is more striking just now than the re-appearance and re-assertion of old ideas of social policy in forms which challenge the modern spirit to use them without stultifying itself or taking retrograde steps. Nearly everybody knows of the system of educational coffers in the Middle Ages. It was a system by which private individuals, "for the love of God," lent money to poor students, upon the strength of certain pledges. One youth would pledge a dagger, another a tankard, another a piece of costly "pelure" or fur, another a book; and the sight was a curious one upon the day when the coffer was opened which contained these pledges, and the students received back the impawned articles upon repayment of the loans. At the late Social Science Congress, at Bristol, Canon Kingsley read a paper by Miss Dorothea Beale, of Cheltenham, suggesting the formation of what she called "An Educational Loan Society"—an institution which, in strict accord with the modern spirit of freedom and independence, should take the place of the mediæval coffer. The lady, indeed, did not, as far as we are informed, refer to that curious institution; but that makes the re-appearance of the old idea in this new shape all the more striking.

There is another educational topic which is rapidly advancing to the front; namely, the mischief that is being done by our present schemes of competitive examination. Professor Maurice contributed the following alarming message:—

I do not know any man who has seriously thought of our present examination system who does not feel that it is undermining the physical, intellectual, and moral life of young men; and that it may do this with even more terrible effect for girls if they are admitted, as of course they should be, to all the privileges of the other sex. You know how parents and physicians alike groan over the loss of physical energy and the shattering of the nerves which they see in young men who have either succeeded or failed in their trials. And what is the reward? A writer in the *Cambridge University Gazette*, who possesses considerable experience, declared the other day that he could not get men to take any interest in Shakespeare unless there was a competitive examination in him with a Tripos list. It is to this state of things that we are coming.

There is undoubtedly much truth in this. Everywhere the strings are being drawn tighter in these matters. The wonderfully rapid growth of science within the last ten years, and the proportionately increased determination of the minds of advanced thinkers in authority to positive studies, has had the effect of making the examinations at, say, the London University, enormously heavier than they were. Happy is the man who took his degree ten years ago! An exclamation in which every man will join who will compare

the examination papers in a calendar of about that date and one of the present time. But what is to be done no one can tell. The more there is to be known the wider must be the curriculum. But what has always struck us, on looking at a University calendar, has been the wastefulness of the examination system. Hundreds of questions are included in the papers set which cannot be required to test the knowledge of the best of the students. Could not some process of sifting be adopted as an initial procedure? If you find a man is at home in quaternions, what is the good of asking him a dozen questions of a quasi-elementary description? If a young man can write an intelligent answer to a question put in order to test his appreciation of the extent to which the jurisprudence of ancient Rome has coloured that of the modern West, what is the use of making him expound the *jus matrimonii*? And so on with other matters.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR WIGAN.

LOSS OF TWENTY-SEVEN LIVES.

A TERRIBLE explosion of firedamp occurred, on Monday afternoon, at the No. 5 pit of the Moss Hall Coal Company, near Wigan. The colliery is, comparatively speaking, a new one, having been opened out within the last two years. The explosion occurred shortly after four o'clock in the afternoon, and the first indication at the pit bank was a report as from a heavy piece of artillery, followed immediately by the issuing from the No. 5 shaft of a dense cloud of smoke and coal-dust, which spread over the whole district. The upper seams, the 5 ft. and 4 ft., were soon examined after the explosion, and tidings were sent to the surface that the explorers had been all round these workings, and had found two dead bodies, both lying near the 4-ft. monthing, and both having apparently been killed by concussion. It now became certain that the catastrophe had taken place in the 6-ft., wherein nearly thirty men and boys were employed; but, as four o'clock was the hour for "knocking off" work, and as several of the workmen had been wound to the surface, it was impossible to state positively how many were down. Amongst the great crowd which assembled in the darkness around the pit the greatest excitement prevailed. On the pit brow a great fire was lighted, the glare from which lighted up hundreds of mournful faces below, and made the scene one of the most striking and melancholy that could be witnessed. It is worth notice, to show how fearless are the colliers on these occasions, to state that some of those who were brought up suffering from the after-damp were expressly forbidden by the doctor to go down again; he stopped them several times, but in the end they were successful in entering the cage when Mr. Brayton's back was turned, and they went willingly forward to aid in the search. The operations below were continued until about a quarter to eleven o'clock, at which time eight dead bodies had been sent up, and there were twenty searchers in the seam in which the disaster occurred. One exploring party, comprising a man named Sharratt and two other colliers, took one of the main levels. Sharratt states that they had travelled about 200 yards or thereabouts when they observed strong indications of burning; they had already met choke-damp, but not sufficiently strong to stop their progress. Sharratt was slightly in advance of his companions, and on reaching one of the openings he saw at the extremity a large blaze, as though the coal were on fire, and, turning round, he hastily told his companions to run for their lives. They hastened to the pit eye, where, as soon as Sharratt had made his statement, it was decided that all should ascend the pit; so with all speed the cage was filled with men and sent to the surface, for it was feared another explosion might occur. The report of the explorers on reaching the bank caused the greatest alarm amongst the crowd assembled; but the terror on the surface could hardly bear comparison with the excitement amongst the brave men below, who were anxiously awaiting the return of the cage. Mr. John Higson, son of the Government inspector of mines for the district, and several managers and engineers from neighbouring collieries, were in the mine at this time. At length all were raised to the surface in safety, and a consultation took place. It was eventually decided that no further attempt to enter the workings should be made that night; but on Tuesday it was ascertained that the colliery was really on fire. Eight bodies only have been recovered, and nineteen lie in the workings. Both shafts have been closed to extinguish the burning coal, and the mine is to be flooded.

SIR JAMES ALDERSON, M.D., F.R.S.—This eminent physician, who has just received the honour of knighthood from Her Majesty, was born in the year 1800. He received his academical education at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he greatly distinguished himself, and was Sixth Wrangler of his year. He proceeded M.B., 1822; M.D., 1825. Dr. Alderson formerly practised in Hull, and was for some years the senior physician to the Hull Infirmary. In 1867 he was elected by the Fellows President of the Royal College of Physicians in the place of Sir Thomas Watson, Bart., which office he still holds. Dr. Alderson is an M.D. of Oxford as well as of Cambridge.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TELEGRAPH SYSTEM.—It has been stated that the Post-Office authorities will not be in a position to take over the working of the whole of the telegraphs of the United Kingdom on Jan. 1. We understand that the arrangements for the organisation of the new staff, and for the transfer of the business, involving, as they have done, a very great amount of official labour, are so far advanced as to justify the opinion that the business will be taken over on the day named. It is possible, however, that in the case of one or two of the companies some little delay may occur, at the most not more than a few weeks. Temporary arrangements will, if necessary, be made with the existing companies to carry on the business under the control of the Postmaster-General.—*Observer*.

SEWAGE MANURE.—We have received a copy of the annual report upon the sewage cultivation of Lodge Farm, at Barking, consisting of "notes" for the year ending Aug. 31, by the Hon. Henry W. Peto. During the twelve months, 360,000 tons (say 1000 tons per day) of sewage have been used upon 120 acres of land. Of this area 53 acres have been in rye grass, absorbing about two-thirds of the whole flooding of sewage, and bearing an average of five crops of grass; and the value of these and of the other crops grown by the sewage on the 120 acres is over £3200. One chief point in the wonderful experience on this farm is its certain confirmation of the view expressed by Mr. W. Hope from the very commencement of the enterprise, that "all ordinary farm and market-garden crops can be abundantly produced by the use of town sewage alone, and that wheat, mangold, and cabbage flourish alike under its application." And Mr. Peto says:—"I much doubt if, in the end, it does not prove that such crops will be grown with greater profit than rye grass when a specific value is placed on the sewage."—*Chamber of Agriculture Journal*.

THE NATIONAL FINANCE SYSTEM.—Whilst the papers are still teeming with references to the miserable affairs of certain commercial companies which have disreputably collapsed, it does not appear to occur to most readers that they are personally concerned in a vast system of expenditure which, although involving intolerable taxation, and a fearful amount of poverty and commercial depression, is yet, practically, subjected to no efficient audit, and to very little real restraint. Out of these seventy millions of annual British expenditure, 10d. in every 1s. goes to the payment of war debts, or military and naval expenditure. The vast sums annually demanded for this purpose are voted with infinitely less examination or deliberation than accompanies a bill to prevent poaching, or to secure to landlords compensation for the cattle plague. But, so long as the people are content and uncomplaining, this state of affairs will go on. Every now and again a little spurt at "retrenchment" is made, but nothing of comparative importance. Even ten or twenty millions' reduction per annum would only bring down the expenses to the level of what, before the Crimean War, was reckoned heavy for the cost of the services. The *Times*, Captain Sherard Osborne, R.N., and other authorities (by no means members of the Peace Party), tell us that, after spending so many millions of money, we merely have an "egg-shell" fleet, and that the fortifications which are the result of "the Palmerston folly" would, in time of war, be utterly inferior to extemporised earthworks, and that the seven or ten millions spent upon them might just as well have been thrown into the sea. If this is national finance, the sooner the system is both "audited" and "wound-up" the better. But no relief will come till the present popular apathy is abandoned.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES, as president of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, will preside at the special meeting of the governors, convened for Monday next, to hear a statement by the treasurer (Mr. Foster White) in reply to the charges which have lately been made against the management of the institution.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, travelling under the title of Count Ardennes, left Brussels at eight a.m. on Monday, on his way to visit this country. His Majesty reached Calais at half-past eleven, and proceeded by the steamer Belgique to Dover, where he arrived about two o'clock. In the evening the King passed through London, en route for Windsor Castle. The Queen of the Belgians was unable to accompany his Majesty through indisposition.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON has decided on making M. de Lesseps Duc de Suez on the occasion of the opening of the canal. The Khedive has invested M. de Lesseps with the grand cross of the Order of Osmanli.

THE MARRIAGE of Prince Charles of Roumania and Princess Elizabeth of Newburg was celebrated, on Monday, in the presence of the Queen of Prussia, the Grand Duchess of Baden, the Count and Countess of Flanders, all the members of the Hohenzollern family, as well as the representatives of the principal Sovereigns of Europe.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY has been elected to the Chancellorship of Oxford University, in succession to the late Lord Derby. The Marquis received thirty-seven votes, and one vote was given for the Earl of Carnarvon.

THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF CARLISLE have unanimously elected the Rev. Harvey Goodwin, Dean of Ely, to the vacant Bishopric.

A STATUE OF THE LATE EARL OF DERBY is to be placed in the Carlton Club.

SIR HENRY BULWER is preparing a new series of "Characters." They will consist of Lord Brougham, Sir Robert Peel, and M. Lafayette.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN AND SIR WILLIAM CLERKE, one of the principal officers of the Treasury, have been appointed Commissioners to inquire into the administration of certain of the public departments in Scotland.

THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, after two or three meetings in Council, have again dispersed. The Lord Chancellor, Mr. Childers, and Mr. Goschen are the only Ministers at present in London.

THE GOVERNMENT have determined upon not filling up the vacant Judgeship in the Scottish Court of Session for the present.

MR. ALDERMAN CAUSTON AND MR. JAMES VALLENTIN, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, are to be knighted, in honour of the Queen's visit to the City; and Colonel Fraser, the Commissioner of the City Police, is to have a Companionship of the Bath.

REAR-ADMIRAL ARTHUR FORBES has been nominated to succeed the late Rear-Admiral Frederick Warden, C.B., as Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's naval forces on the coast of Ireland. Admiral Forbes is in his sixty-third year, and has been unemployed since 1861. Mr. Sainthill, Paymaster, Royal Navy, will, it is said, be selected to perform the duties of secretary to the Admiral.

THE LATE BISHOP PHILLIPOTS gave to the county of Cornwall an important and valuable theological library. It was given on condition that within three years of his demise a room suitable for its reception should be provided. A large and handsome structure is now being erected at Truro, and is intended as a memorial to the late Bishop. It will be used as a depository for the Christian Knowledge Society, as well as for purposes of the library.

A DONATION OF £1000 in aid of the University College Hospital has been forwarded to the treasurer by an anonymous benefactor under the initials of G.W.S.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN PARAGUAY has drawn up the draught of a new Constitution, by the disposition of which slavery is declared to be abolished.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN, the poet, is so unwell with cerebral symptoms that literary labour has had to be entirely suspended, and is not likely to be soon resumed.

THE LANDLADY OF THE SUN INN at Saffron Walden has been burnt to death in her tap-room. A man named Welham has also been burnt to death in a malting-house at Stowmarket.

MR. NATHAN, whose imprisonment in Italy was, it will be recollected, made the subject of a question in the House of Commons towards the close of last Session, has been released, it is stated.

THE FOLLOWING INSCRIPTION is on a tombstone in San Diego, California:—"This year is sacred to the memory of William Henry Shaken, who came to his death being shot with Colt's revolver—one of the old kind, brass mounted—and of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

A MEMORIAL to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has been forwarded by twenty-three magistrates of Meath, calling attention to the crimes which have been committed in that county within twelve months, and asking for protection, "even should it involve an autumn season."

PAUPERISM in the metropolis is rapidly on the increase. In the last week of October the number in receipt of parochial relief was 1981 more than in the corresponding period of last year, while in the first week of November the excess had risen to 4661. Of the total number 35,586 were in the workhouses, and 102,650 were receiving outdoor relief.

THE EARL OF ZETLAND, Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason, has intimated that he does not intend to seek re-election to the office, which he has held for twenty-six years. It is expected that Earl De Grey and Ripon, who has held the office of Deputy Grand Master since the retirement of the Earl of Dalhousie, will be put in nomination for the office of Grand Master.

THE ELECTIONS BOTH AT HASTINGS AND WHITBY, on Wednesday, terminated in favour of the Liberal candidates. At the former place, Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth is returned, according to the Liberal statement, by a majority of 137, while the Conservatives allow their opponents an advantage of only 98. At Whitby, Mr. W. H. Gladstone was successful by a majority of 102. The polling for the Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities continues to run in favour of Mr. Strathern Gordon, the Conservative candidate.

THE REV. THOMAS FULLER, Vicar of St. Peter's, Pimlico, has intimated to the Bishop of London his intention of resigning his benefice at Christmas. He will carry with him the esteem and respect of his parishioners, among whom he has ministered nearly forty-three years. He will be succeeded by the Rev. George Howard Wilkinson, incumbent of St. Peter's, Great Windmill-street.

THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON is laid aside from his public labours by an attack of smallpox.

A "LABOUR TEST" for able-bodied women in receipt of outdoor relief is to be tried in one of the metropolitan unions. The test is to take the form of needlework, making and repairing such clothing as may be required in the workhouse.

NOTICES were affixed on Tuesday to the lamps on Blackfriars Bridge and in the Blackfriars and Westminster Bridge roads, stating that an application will be made to Parliament in the ensuing Session for powers to lay down tramways in these thoroughfares.

A THEATRE, to be called "The New Belgravia," is in course of construction in Sloane-square, near the station of the Metropolitan Railway. Mr. Henry Grant will be the manager, and it is expected that the house will be completed about Christmas.

ABBE FALB's predictions of earthquakes in South America have proved unfounded. The time named passed without anything occurring on the coast to cause the least excitement or alarm. Along the whole of the coast of Chili, Peru, and Ecuador the finest weather prevailed.

A BUILDING SOCIETY which has been established in Wolverhampton nearly twenty years has been robbed of £6000. The funds extend over a period covering nearly the entire history of the society, and the present and late secretaries are charged with having committed them.

A MAN NAMED CHARLES WAKLEY, living in High-street, Woolwich, was found lying on the pavement in front of his house early on Saturday morning, with his skull fractured and his ribs fearfully broken. He was taken to Guy's Hospital, and died about five minutes after his admission. It is said that he was a somnambulist, and he is supposed to have jumped from one of the windows of his house.

CONSIDERABLE REDUCTIONS are contemplated in the Custom House. Mr. Morgan H. Foster, one of the principal clerks from the Treasury, is in attendance at Thames-street nearly every day, inquiring into the financial system adopted with Examiners and Inspector-Generals' departments; and Mr. G. Lefevre, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade, is likewise minutely examining and reporting upon the statistics of the Customs.

A MEETING has been recently held at Ashby Magna, Leicestershire, under the auspices of the Bishop of Peterborough, to take into consideration the question of compulsory education. The diocesan inspectors of schools and the secretary to the board of inspectors were present. Various papers were read, and a resolution was carried recognising the importance of some legislative action for ensuring the more general attendance of children at school. School-prize schemes were also discussed, and a sub-committee was appointed to prepare the details of a scheme for the archdeaconry of Leicester. The Bishop presided.

MR. MERRIMAN, on behalf of the Central English Amnesty Committee, lately applied to Mr. Gladstone to receive a deputation for the purpose of laying before him the case of the imprisoned Fenians. The Premier, however, has replied to the effect that, although the matter is one having a claim upon the careful attention of the Government, it is not one well suited for discussion with a deputation. In consequence of Mr. Gladstone's refusal to receive their deputation, the London Amnesty Association has been dissolved in disgust.

THE LOUNGER.

THE list of the new peers is published. There are nine of them, and it is worthy of notice that Mr. Robertson is not on the list. Perhaps the list is not complete; perhaps he was not offered a peerage, or, what is more likely, he may have declined it. He is getting to be an old man; and he has no son. He likes the House of Commons, and has a secure seat. Why should he leave it? And now, having nothing better to do, I will tell my readers something about these new peers:—First comes James Carnegie, the ninth Earl of Southesk. Hitherto he has been merely a Scotch peer, and has had no seat in the Upper House. By the Act of Union the peers of Scotland elect sixteen representative peers every Parliament. The vast majority of the Scotch people are Liberals. The majority of Scotch peers are Tories. Lord Southesk is a Liberal, and therefore stood no chance of being elected. Now he will be made a peer of the realm, and take his seat by right, he and his heirs for ever—or, rather, so long as the House of Lords lasts in its present form, which may not be for ever.

William Hare, third Earl of Listowel, is an Irish peer. The Irish peers elect twenty-eight peers to sit in the House of Lords for life. His Lordship is not a representative peer, but he, too, is to be made a peer of the United Kingdom, and have by right a seat in the Upper House.

Mr. George Carr Glyn is the head of the great banking firm, Glyn, Mills, and Co. He is the fourth son of Sir Richard Carr Glyn, Bart., banker, and, in the year 1798, Lord Mayor of London. He was made a Baronet in 1800. In that year Hatfield attempted the life of George III., whereupon the City, no doubt, sent a loyal address to his Majesty, congratulating his Majesty upon his escape. Was the Lord Mayor made a Baronet on this occasion? There is another Baronetcy in this family. The first of this line of Baronets was Sir Richard Glyn, LL.D. He, too, was a City banker and a Lord Mayor. He occupied the civic chair in 1758, and was created Baronet in 1759. Why, I know not. There are representatives of both these baronetcies living. The Rev. Sir George Lewin Glyn, of Ewell, Surrey, has the older title; Sir Richard George Glyn, of Gaunt House, Dorset, the younger. This great City bank has, then, achieved two baronetcies and a peerage. Mr. Glyn represented Kendal from 1867 to 1868, when he resigned his seat, foreseeing, probably, that he should soon be called to the Upper House. He is seventy-two years old. His heir is his son, George Grenfell Glyn, member for Shaftesbury, and chief whip for the Government. As Glyn is the Welsh for Glen, this family, it would seem, originally came from Wales. There is a mistake abroad which it will be as well to correct. It has been said that these Glyns are related to Mrs. Gladstone's father. This is not so. His name is Sir Stephen Glynn. This Baronetcy is 200 years old.

The Right Honourable John Welsh Fitzpatrick sits for Queen's county, Ireland, and has been its member for twelve years altogether, but not in succession. The affections of the electors here as elsewhere, especially in Ireland, seem to have been wayward. This family is a branch of the Fitzpatricks who held the now extinct title of Earl of Upper Ossory. It is an ancient race;—may have descended from the famous Saint Patrick, if he had any children, as he might have had, for celibacy of priests was not insisted upon in the era when the saint flourished. But, now I think of it, the saint's real name was Maur, or, as some say, Succoth. Patrick is a corruption of patricius—a title of honour conferred upon the saint by the people. It is curious that Patrick, Paddy, Pat should be derived from patricius—Anglice, patrician; but so it is. Mr. Fitzpatrick is a handsome old man, and will look well in his peer's robes. He is one of our silent members, and, though well known in the House, is but little known outside. He has always been a Liberal, except when he, like some other Whigs, opposed free trade.

Lord Edward George Fitzalan Howard is the second son of the thirteenth Duke of Norfolk, and uncle of the present Duke. His Lordship was, from 1852 to 1868, member for the Duke of Norfolk's borough of Arundel. This borough was disfranchised by the Reform Act, and thus Lord Edward was shut out of Parliament. His Lordship is a Roman Catholic, and for several years was the only English Roman Catholic member in the House.

Christopher Rice Mansel Talbot, the member for Glamorgan-shire, is not, as some may suppose, of the family of the Shrewsbury Talbots. He is, though, allied to the Peerage through his mother, a daughter of the Earl of Ilchester, and his late wife, a daughter of the Earl of Glengal. Mr. Talbot lives at Margam Castle, which you see on your right as you steam up Swansea Bay, and is known in Wales as Talbot of Margam. He has represented his county since 1830, and has always steadily, though silently, supported the Liberal party. He is a very rich man—lives in state, and steams about the Bristol Channel in a yacht fit for a king. Welsh landlords were not noted for their riches until they made the grand discovery that the wealth to be got out of the surface of their estates was but a trifle to the riches which lay below.

Sir John Emerich Dalberg Acton is a Roman Catholic, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, Catholic; for it is understood that he is not an Ultramontanist and that he is much too free and independent to be in favour at Rome. His family seat is at Aldenham Hall, Shropshire, three miles from Bridgnorth. He represented Carlisle from 1859 to 1865. In 1865 he put up for Bridgnorth, and beat Henry Whitmore, the Conservative whip, by one vote. There was great rejoicing in the Liberal camp over this victory, for the Whitmores were considered to be impregnable at Bridgnorth. But Sir John could not keep his ground; on a scrutiny, he was unseated. Bridgnorth is an old battle-ground of the Whitmores and the Actons; but at one time, it would seem, they were related, for I find that in 1710 there was a petition presented against a Mr. Whitmore-Acton. As Sir John has had but little opportunity of serving the Liberal party, some may wonder why he should be made a peer. Well, in the first place, his family is ancient; then, he is an able and accomplished man; and, lastly, Earl Granville, our President of the Council, married Sir John's mother.

Mr. Thomas James Agar-Robartes belongs to an old Cornish family, and is, or thinks he is, through his mother—whose name (Robartes) he assumed—descended from the old Earls of Radnor, whose title became extinct. He represented East Cornwall from 1847 till 1868, when he retired. Mr. Robartes would like to be Lord Radnor, no doubt; but this can scarcely be, as the Bouveries have got that title. Mr. Robartes was always a safe vote, but he scarcely, if ever, spoke in the House.

Colonel Fulke Southwell Greville-Nugent is member for Longford, and has been for seventeen years. He is, he says, descended from a younger branch of the Earl of Warwick's family, whose family name, as my readers will remember, is Greville. The Colonel has a son in the House—to wit, Algernon Greville, member for Westmeath, Captain 1st Life Guards and junior whip under Mr. Glyn. This is the last on the list. Mr. Ellice had a peerage offered to him, but has declined it.

When Sydney Smith declared that it required a surgical operation to get a joke into a Scotchman's head, he, of course, referred to one of his own witticisms; but a more remarkable experiment has just been successfully accomplished by a Scotchman, who has contrived not only to interest, but to delight an English audience by reading to them humorous and pathetic selections from Scottish authors, without evading the true flavour of the full northern accent, and with only a few prefatory words of interpretation even to Burns's "Tam o' Shanter." This at first doubtful enterprise was undertaken by Mr. Charles Ferrier, in the lecture-hall of the City of London College, Sussex Hall, Leadenhall-street; and before the conclusion of the first part of the entertainment, which included an extract from "Rab and his Friends" and the serio-comic ballad of "Watty and Meg," the satisfaction of a numerous audience meeting was unmistakably expressed. I hope Mr. Ferrier will pursue his readings, and introduce the English public to a few more of the characters in the minstrelsy and narrative of the "land o' cakes."

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Student* contains, among other matter, a highly-readable paper upon "Estimates of Probability." Of course, the "Gold Coinage" turns up. If we don't all know "what is a pound" before long, it will not be the fault of newspaper and magazine writers.

The new cover of *Good Words for the Young* is striking, but not an improvement upon the old one. In the centre of the page is a rising sun, right across the middle of which comes the name of the editor, which is thus surrounded by a luminous halo. The contents are mostly so good that I shall not particularise, except to say that "Little Willie's Question," by the Editor, is the best thing in the number. There is a touch of unconscious, almost innocent, humour in the editor's short address. Congratulating himself upon his staff of contributors, he says he can hardly go wrong with "an able crew, every man fit to be captain himself, crowding the deck." This is rather a novel idea of a condition of success. But the selection of the matter seems to have been excellent, and the number is really a fine one.

In *London Society* there is a capital paper on a very difficult subject—sermons in general, and Mr. Liddon's in particular. The verses in the number are all unusually good, and so are the illustrations.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* I omitted to notice a paragraph suggesting that the time may come when a man's words may be taken down mechanically. The author uses the word "sonogram" for "sound-picture." We demur to the word, but the thing will assuredly be done; and it was prophesied in this column of the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES* some years ago.

In *Good Words* Dean Alford has a capital paper on some "Things which Need to be Reformed." Here he is in his element—he has really an immense practical sagacity, and we should like to see more of what it can accomplish. One of his topics is the by no means new one of the beershops. In a street not a quarter of a mile long, within about that distance of my desk at this moment, there are eleven public-houses, mostly beershops. The way in which these shops spring up on the heels of a railway extension is most remarkable.

"Oranges and Lemons," the Christmas Number of *Once a Week*, will be ready in a few days. It contains a variety of tales by eminent authors, and is richly illustrated.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I give Mr. Barry Sullivan every credit for good intentions. But having started a popular cry; having made himself a theatrical Horatius, and placed himself in the middle of the bridge which divides the poetical drama from vulgarity; having placarded all London with a curious preface to one of the acting editions of "The Gamster," having made the best use of a fairly-intelligent company, and having notoriously made a name for reviving forgotten plays—why so suddenly break down, and favour expectant London with a very so-so performance of "The Lady of Lyons"? A manager must be judged by his own professions. Mr. Sullivan has made capital out of his efforts for the intellectual drama; and if Mr. Sullivan means to say that "The Lady of Lyons" is an edifying work, of course I have done with Mr. Sullivan. Besides, why go out of one's way to revive "The Lady of Lyons" with no available Claude Melnotte? Mr. Sullivan's young men are hardly strong enough for the part just yet, and, naturally, he manager only plays the lead *faute de mieux*. A certain rough-and-ready tragic force, vast experience, and the study of a wide range of characters, render Mr. Barry Sullivan invaluable in certain plays. His Beverley was really a good performance, well worth seeing, and will be remembered, particularly in the scene with Stukeley when Beverley is absolutely ruined. But a Claude Melnotte suggests certain qualities which are given by nature, not acquired by art. Heaviness, laboured intonation, a terribly-distinct enunciation of every syllable in each dissyllable and trisyllable word are the attributes of actors of "the good old school," as it is called; and I don't pretend to deny that the "good old school" made tragic actors; but "The Lady of Lyons" is not a tragedy. Claude Melnotte is a light-comedy part; and I honestly do not think that the manager of the Holborn Theatre is at home in any character which requires gaiety or suggests fascination. The Pauline of Mrs. Hermann Vezin is quite another thing. No one but a tried actress could sustain such a rôle, and it is sufficient to say that Mrs. Vezin never faltered. Occasionally, and notably in the cottage scene, the ripe and mellow character of this lady's style was shown, and I really do not know any actress now on the stage who in certain characters can be compared to Mrs. Vezin. Save that Mr. W. H. Stephens (a really useful actor) was capitally made up as General Damas, and that Mr. Lin Rayne made something out of Glavis, I have little more to say about the performance. It was certainly not first-rate, or anything like it; and, were it not for the protestations which I well remember, and for the danger of overrating industry, I might have left it alone. Mr. Barry Sullivan has a great opportunity at the Holborn; but when I say that in the same proportion that playgoers were delighted with "The Gamster," they are surprised at the last revival, I am merely expressing the opinion of hundreds of people who, like myself, believe in the vitality of the Holborn company.

I have been at ASTLEY'S, and seen an imitation of Miss Menken, and but a tawdry representation of Mæzappa. Miss Lillian wears her hair à la Menken, dresses (or rather undresses) à la Menken, and, after various combats and a great deal of attitudinising, is strapped in the same fashion across the back of a very mild horse. I have rarely seen a steed with so little fire in him, or one so thoroughly tamed, as the one at Astley's. On the whole, the performance is a very good joke, and far more amusing than many burlesques and farces at which I have assisted. The "supers" are always great fun, the tournament is delightfully nonsensical, and the play teems with the anachronisms so dear to the inventive mind of Mr. E. T. Smith. The "gag" of the comic man, Drolinsko, and the songs introduced by the comic lady during the carpenter-scenes are sufficiently curious to frighten Lord Byron out of his grave. To all those, therefore, who enjoy a hearty laugh, and knowing what should be, see what is, I recommend an early visit to Astley's.

Mr. Henry Holl, once upon a time an actor of lovers' characters at the Haymarket, and a novel-writer of some repute, has been reading at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS. His audience was select and enthusiastic, and the applause he received at the end of well-known scraps from Charles Dickens and popular pieces of modern poetry will no doubt induce Mr. Holl to appear on the platform again.

Next Monday the German Reeds commence their winter season at the GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION with a new entertainment written by Mr. W. S. Gilbert and musically illustrated by Mr. Fred. Clay, well known as a writer of drawing-room love songs. Miss Fanny Holland, a charming singer, has been added to the little company of which Mr. Arthur Cecil is still an invaluable member. "Cox and Box," I am delighted to say, will be repeated.

On the following Monday Mr. Woodin comes back to London, and, being turned out of the Polygraphic, puts up at the large room in the Egyptian Hall.

The members of the 1st Surrey Rifles Dramatic Club commenced their fourth season on the 12th inst., "The Chimney Corner" and "Dandelion's Dodges" being the inauguration pieces. In Mr. Craven's drama Peter Probity was excellently acted by Ensign Fourdrinier. I have had the pleasure of seeing this gentleman in several entirely different parts; but, whether portraying ploughboy or lord, his impersonations are alike effective. Private Macrone was very carefully made up as Solomon Probity, but his enunciation was occasionally too rapid for so old a man. Miss Harvey, the amateurs' able ally, appeared as Patty Probity; and in the second act, to impress the audience with the notion that her heart was breaking, had whitened her face to such an absurd extent that her appearance was positively hideous. It should be

borne in mind that dejection and misery can be represented upon the stage without the assistance of flour; the use of such an agent is, of course, allowable in a burlesque or farce, but scarcely in a drama. Lance-Corporal F. H. Macklin was sufficiently self-possessed as Charles Chatty, and Private Ruston was gentlemanly as John Probity. Miss Nora Tenyon has much to learn before she will be able to correctly interpret such a character as Grace Emery. Mr. J. T. Williams's farce of "Dandelion's Dodges," with Ensign Fourdrinier in the title rôle, terminated a remarkably successful entertainment.

SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

THE opening meeting of the session of the Social Science Congress took place on Monday night, at their rooms, Adam-street, Adelphi. An introductory address on the business of the session was delivered by Edwin Chadwick, Esq., C.B. He commenced, with respect to home matters, by congratulating the meeting on the special attention now being paid to the subject of elementary education, on the movements in progress to push it forward, and on the appearance of the National Education League at Birmingham, with the promise of lively controversy and large concession. He contrasted the programme of this league with that of the Manchester School Union, and asserted that there were large omissions in both, which the Social Science Association might well occupy itself in supplying. He assumed that the preponderant feeling of the association was in favour of an unsectarian system of national education. He referred to the necessity of paying attention to the good sanitary condition of schools, most of which were grievously injurious to the health both of children and teachers, and tended to favour the spread of epidemic disease. It would be necessary very much to improve the teaching power, the quality of which was being lowered instead of being raised. He glanced at systems in use on the Continent, and pointed out where he thought useful hints might be gathered. He referred at some length to the importance and possibility of further sanitary improvements by instancing such cases as Croydon, where the death-rate had been reduced from 26 and even 30 in the 1000 to 17, Norwood even to 12, and Salisbury, where the reduction was from 40 to 17. He estimated the general labour and productive power of the wage classes of this country as being three to two against most Continental labour; but he believed that by proper physical training, or placing the population under the half-time system, we might improve by imparting to three the efficiency of five for all purposes of ordinary labour. Such an improvement of the working stock of the country would justify the application of a national rate, if it were necessary, to obtain it, as a means of great national economy. He insisted strongly and ably on the importance of mixing bodily and mental training, and said that five or six hours' mental training for children was a physiological error. All children should be in an elementary school from the fourth to the eleventh year, and those who remained from their eleventh to their fourteenth year should be in technical or science and art classes. A school tax in the form of a capitation tax would not be more than 6s. per head per annum. A general and complete elementary education on such principles would increase the productive power of the country by one third. The Department of Economy and Trade, he said, would be re-assembled under conditions of distress and of an extensive reduction of domestic as well as of foreign consumption, and of outcries against what were called hostile tariffs, and demands for protection by retaliatory import duties from the birthplace of free trade—in Lancashire. He gave a brief résumé of the economic fallacies involved in such demands, and pointed out that, to stimulate production and employment, it was necessary to stimulate consumption, which could only be done by improving and cheapening art, science, and manufacturing production, so as to enable us to keep pace with foreign nations that were rapidly advancing in those respects. He next glanced at the alterations in warfare, and the improvement in defence as compared with attack, which had the effect of very much strengthening the comparative power of the smaller States. That being so, he contended that four fifths of the French and other great Continental armies could only be for offence, and that efforts ought to be made to bring about great reductions in the armed forces of Europe now on foot. He then referred to the subject of reducing railway fares, which would be as beneficial to the shareholders as it would be for the public. He looked to the experiment, which might be made in Ireland, as being very likely to bring about great reforms in this matter. He next insisted on the necessity of the Law Amendment Society taking up the subject of the appointment of a public prosecutor. He thought the great difficulty in the way of this reform at present was the combination in the persons of the law officers of public functions and private practice.

Mr. Hastings moved that the address should be printed and circulated amongst the members of the association. This gentleman insisted very strongly on the necessity of the appointment of a public prosecutor, illustrating it by the late case of Fanny Oliver, at whose trial he had been present. That was a breakdown in a prosecution which could not possibly have happened under the Scotch system. He suggested that in all murder cases the Solicitor to the Treasury should act as prosecutor.

Mr. Chisholm Anstey seconded the motion, and recommended the adoption of the Scotch system, with improvements.

Some discussion ensued, and the motion was then carried unanimously, the proceedings closing with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

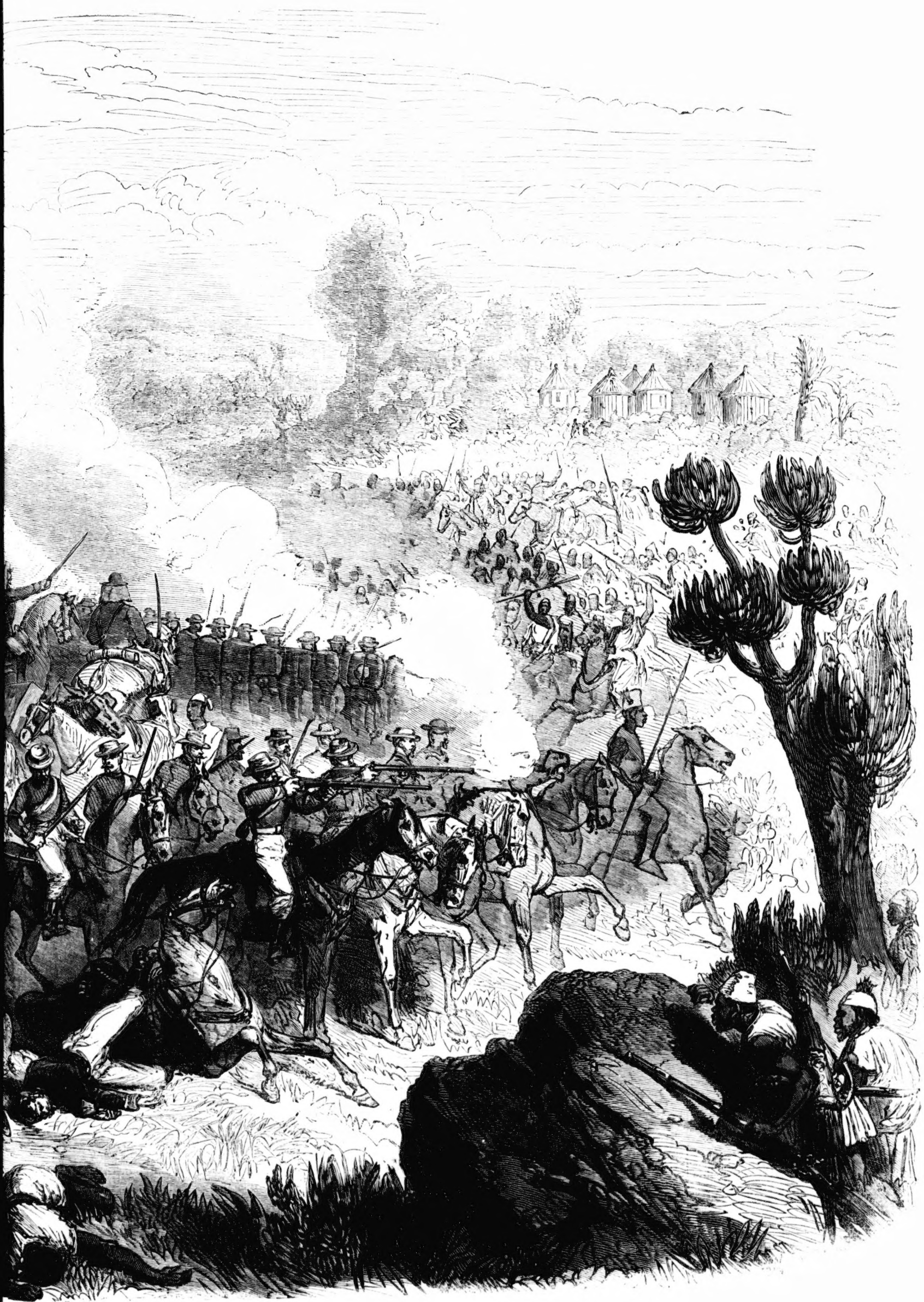
ELECTION PETITIONS.—The amount expended by petitioners and respondents in the fourteen election petitions tried in England this year was £12,117, while the cost to the Treasury was £12,158. Of the latter sum, nearly £5000 was paid to shorthand-writers. The most costly of the petitions, so far as the costs have been taxed up to the end of July, was that from Hastings, in which £1896 4s. was allowed. It appears by a Treasury return just published that from March 1 to Sept. 30 there was allowed to the election judges for expenses £1502 6s. 8d. There was paid to Judges' marshals, registrars, mayors, town clerks, and others, £10,656 12s. The latter sum includes nearly £5000 for shorthand-writing.

THE WELSH EVICTIONS.—The long-announced conference on this subject was held at Aberystwith on Tuesday. Mr. Richards, M.P., presided, and about 200 delegates from the chief towns and districts in the Principality were present. The resolutions—which were agreed to unanimously—expressed sympathy with the persons evicted, and recommended that a fund for their relief should be raised by public subscriptions and by collections in every Welsh chapel, and that a guarantee fund of £20,000 should be raised. Towards this fund Mr. Morley, M.P.; Mr. Richards, M.P.; Mr. Dillwyn, M.P.; and two other gentlemen have each offered £1000. Applications for compensation are to be investigated by a committee for each county. At a public meeting held in the evening, under the presidency of Mr. John Roberts, of Liverpool, the resolutions adopted by the conference were unanimously confirmed.

THE NEW DEAN OF ELY.—The Rev. Charles Merivale, upon whom the vacant Deanery of Ely has been conferred by Mr. Gladstone, is the younger brother of Mr. Herman Merivale, the permanent Under-Secretary of State for India. He is the second son of the late Mr. John H. Merivale, of Barton-place, Devon, and Louisa, daughter of the late Rev. Joseph Drury, D.D., of Cockwood House, in the same county. He was born in 1808, and was educated at Harrow, under the late Dr. Butler, and afterwards at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he was successively Scholar, Fellow, and Tutor, and where he took his Bachelor's degree in 1830, obtaining the rank of a Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos, and coming out at the same time as fourth in the first class in the Classical Tripos. Dr. Wordsworth, now Bishop of Lincoln, being Senior Classic, and Lord A. Hervey, the new Bishop of Bath and Wells, standing next but one below him. He took his Master's degree in 1833, and that of B.D. in 1840. He was one of the select preachers in the University of Cambridge in 1838-9 and 1839-40, and one of her Majesty's preachers at Whitehall in 1840-2. He has been for some years Rector of Lawford, near Colchester, Essex (for which county he is a magistrate), and also Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, in which capacity he is very popular with members of the Lower House of Parliament. Mr. Merivale's name is known as one of the ablest of the contributors to the *Arundines Cami*, and also still more widely as the author of a most learned and elaborate history of the Romans under the Empire, which was published in seven or eight volumes 8vo at different dates between the years 1850 and 1862. Mr. Merivale married, in 1850, Miss Judith Sophia Frere, daughter of the late Mr. George Frere, of Twyford House, Hertfordshire.



THE FRENCH COLONY IN SENE



BAT WITH NATIVES AT LOUGA.

ATTACK OF NATIVES ON A FRENCH ESCORT IN SENEGAL.

It is only a few weeks ago that we published some account of the French colony of Senegal, accompanied with illustrations of the manners and customs of the natives. In our present Number we have to record the intelligence of an outbreak on the part of a number of adherents of a pretender to the sovereignty of the district of Cayor, who has already given some trouble to the French troops in consequence of his having instituted a guerrilla band, and taken several opportunities of seizing provisions and other necessities on their way to the various outposts.

On Sept. 12 a column of 450 men set out from St. Louis, in order to escort a convoy of one hundred oxen and 160 mules and camels intended for the service at the post of N'diagne, situated at about eighty miles distance. A previous convoy having been actually stopped and the provisions carried off by the enemy, the victualling of the outposts had become a serious difficulty, and it was deemed necessary to send sufficient strength for its protection. The column was compelled to encamp at Louga, where the men had to seek for water; and a considerable part of the day was consumed in this work, as well as in reconnoitring the enemy, who had gathered round the place in considerable numbers. In fact, so great was the activity of the insurgents that the tired troops had to sustain several irregular skirmishes by day and two night attacks. Under these circumstances, Lieutenant-Colonel Camus, of the Senegalese tirailleurs, resolved to make a sham retreat on St. Louis, for the purpose of drawing out the enemy's force—a manoeuvre which had the effect of bringing into the more open country about 7000 natives for the purpose of attacking the apparently vanquished troops. By this time, however, the escort had formed in square, and, in spite of the intense heat, and their suffering from thirst, received the enemy with such determination that he was forced to retire, and the attack was converted into a complete defeat, and ultimately to a rout, with the loss of 150 horses and 700 men killed, besides a great number wounded. The convoy pursued the insurgents as far as their camp, which, being well supplied with water, offered a welcome prize to the parched and burning soldiers who had just achieved such a victory; so that, the enemy having fled, the troops took possession of the provisions, and afterwards continued their march to N'diagne, where they arrived on the 18th, without having lost any portion of the convoy, and returned in triumph to St. Louis on the 26th. Our Engraving represents the critical moment of the battle, when the troops received the first attack of the enemy.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.—At the Free Church of Scotland Commission, on Wednesday, a report from the Committee on National Education was brought up and, after much discussion, ordered to lie on the table, it being doubtful whether the Commission had authority to deal with it. The report criticised the Scotch Education Bill of last Session generally, opposed the denominational schools, and urged that, with a view to a settlement of the question, all mention of teaching religion in schools should be struck out of the bill.

A MECHANICAL REGISTRAR OF DISTANCES.—The Council of the Society of Arts offer their silver medal for the best instrument, to be affixed to a cab or other hackney-carriage, for indicating the fare as between the passenger and the driver, whether by registering the distance travelled or otherwise; and which instrument shall also indicate, for the convenience of the cabowner and of the driver, the total distance travelled during the day and the total amount earned. The instruments competing, with full descriptions of their construction, to be sent to the society's house before Jan. 1, 1870.

AT A MEETING OF THE ST. PANCRAZ GUARDIANS, on Monday, a committee reported that, by agreeing to the proposals of the Poor-Law Board, and annexing their infirmary and schools to other like establishments, the parish would be saved £60,000 of outlay, which would otherwise be requisite, and half the annual establishment charges. Although several guardians expressed themselves somewhat dolefully at the parish being deprived of so much of its individuality, the proposals were adopted by a majority of eleven.

INFALLIBILITY OF THE POPE.—Monsieur Dupanloup has addressed a letter to the clergy of the diocese of Orleans, in which his Lordship declares himself adverse to a definite and personal infallibility of the Pope as inopportune. Monsieur Dupanloup, moreover, blames the intemperate language of such journals as the *Civiltà Cattolica* and the *Univers*, which have opened the discussion upon this delicate question, and have prejudged the decisions of the Ecumenical Council. His Lordship says that a declaration of personal infallibility would be inopportune at the present time, because it would be useless and dangerous; would drive schismatics and heretics still further from the Church, their restoration to which ought not to be despaired of; would provoke the mistrust even of Catholic Governments, and would revive the hatred of the Pontifical Power. Monsieur Dupanloup mentions only to blame those Popes who confounded the spiritual with the temporal, and arrogated to themselves claims to dominate over thrones, referring particularly to the bull of Paul III., which released the subjects of Henry VIII. from their oath of allegiance. This bull Monsieur Dupanloup considers to have been calculated rather to precipitate the English nation into heresy than to have brought it back to the Church, and to have been for all Christendom a great misfortune.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.—The University Court have adopted the following regulations for the education of women in medicine in the University:—1. Women shall be admitted to the study of medicine in the University. 2. The instruction of women for the profession of medicine shall be conducted in separate classes confined entirely to women. 3. The professors of the faculty of medicine shall for this purpose be permitted to have separate classes for women. 4. Women not intending to study medicine professionally may be admitted to such of these classes, or to any such part of the courses of instruction given in such classes, as the University Court may from time to time think fit and approve. 5. The fee for the full course of instruction in such classes shall be four guineas; but, in the event of the number of students proposing to attend any such class being too small to provide a reasonable remuneration at that rate, it shall be in the power of the professor to make arrangements for a higher fee, subject to the usual sanction of the University Court. 6. All women attending such classes shall be subject to all the regulations now or at any future time in force in the University as to the matriculation of students, their attendance on classes, examination, or otherwise. 7. The above regulations shall take effect as from the commencement of session 1869-70. The Chancellor has sanctioned the regulations in terms of the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1858.

YORKSHIRE CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.—A surprise has come upon Lord Middleton's tenantry in Yorkshire. His Lordship's agent has forwarded a printed circular to each tenant giving Lord Middleton's permission to "dig out, ferret, and kill" rabbits on their farms during December and January, provided they do not use gun or snare, or resort to unfair means or damage fences. The tenant-farmers are, of course, glad to accept the privilege of destroying to some extent the vermin their crops have fed, and the Chambers of Agriculture, which have unanimously condemned the "over-preservation of ground game," propose to thank Lord Middleton for having set an example which, if followed out generally, would greatly benefit the farmers, who suffer so much from destruction of crops where rabbits are preserved. The Chambers of Agriculture have abundant work for the winter season. The Malton Chamber will meet next month to consider "the best mode of providing for the future maintenance of turnpike roads and highways;" and the same question will be discussed by the Council of the Central Chamber in London in February. The County Chambers are also about to discuss the following resolutions of the Central Chamber: 1. That the corn averages, as at present taken, are fallacious, and that returns should be limited to purchases from growers only; 2, that all agricultural produce should be sold by weight only; and, 3, that the "cental" of 100lb. should be the standard.

THE LATE MR. PEABODY.—On Wednesday, the 10th inst., a letter was addressed, on the part of Ministers, to Sir C. Lamson, signifying the desire of the British Government to convey the remains of the late Mr. Peabody to the United States in a ship of the Royal Navy. It has since been decided that the remains of the lamented philanthropist shall be received at Portsmouth on Friday morning, the 26th inst., for conveyance to Portland, in the State of Maine. For this honourable office her Majesty's ship *Monarch*, a turret-ship of the most recent construction, and probably the most powerful vessel in her Majesty's Navy, has been selected. She is under the command of Captain Cornwall, V.C. and C.B. This arrangement was, of course, immediately communicated to the Government of the United States, and a telegram has been received from the President through Mr. Motley, the Minister of the United States in this country, announcing that the President will order an American vessel of war, if it can reach England in time, to act as a convoy to the *Monarch* on her mission to the United States. On Sunday afternoon a funeral sermon in memory of the late Mr. Peabody was preached in Westminster Abbey by the Bishop of London. The right rev. prelate, who was listened to with the deepest attention by an immense congregation, paid an eloquent tribute to the virtues of the deceased philanthropist. Mr. Peabody has directed Sir Curtis Lamson and Mr. Charles Reed, his executors, to pay over to the trustees of the Peabody Donation Fund, for the erection of dwellings for the poor of London, the sum of £150,000, thereby making the whole amount given by him for this purpose £500,000.

M. PREVOST-PARADOL ON THE SOCIAL STATE OF FRANCE.

M. PREVOST-PARADOL has delivered a second lecture on the social and political state of France to the members of the Philosophical Institution, in the Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh.

M. Prevost-Paradol, who was received with loud applause, said his plan on the present occasion would be to go through the various classes of French society, marking on the way the special character of each of those classes, and then to sketch some comprehensive views of the French character as a whole. Looking first at the large and solid basis of French society, he spoke of the man who was bearing nearly the whole weight of the social fabric, who paid the greatest bulk of the taxes, and especially of that heavy one which they called the blood-tax—that was, the military service—who is, in short, a kind of ballast for their country—he meant the French peasant. Their nation of peasants was, as a whole, a nation of meritorious and hard-working proprietors, but, at the same time, a nation of small proprietors, and, as such, timid, and without strength to stand against the Government. The influence of the Government was all-powerful on the French peasant. Regular payment of taxes, submission to military service; ready obedience to any representative, high or low, of the Executive, had entered so deeply into the habits of the peasant that he did not consider even the possibility of acting otherwise. It was the State who chose his justices of peace, who sent a schoolmaster to his village, brought up and educated his child for a trifle, and generally for nothing; who, some years later, called up that same child, looks him through to know if he could be turned into a good soldier, and then took him for nine years. It was the State who sent to him the tax-collector, and sometimes gave him back part of his money if he has suffered too much from hail or inundation; it is the State who, represented by those two gendarmes, riding every day from village to village, stopping at the peasant's abode, asking him what he thinks or what he knows; acting as his best protectors and true friends in quiet times, but ready to overawe him and to bully him to the poll when the electoral business has begun. The modern centralised State, born of the French Revolution, had inherited the unseen treasure of obedience and fear which had been accumulated in the heart of the French peasant by centuries of feudal despotism. It was that peasantry which the Revolution of 1848 had suddenly called to political life and pushed on to the polling-box, by the unexpected institution of universal suffrage. Still some good results were thereby attained. The first was to instil, by electoral agitation, a certain life into that inert part of the nation; the second advantage was to make the educated classes truly familiar for the first time with the intellectual and moral state of the peasantry, and alive to the necessity of elevating the rural population to the rank of citizens. The rural canvassing, which universal suffrage had imposed, had revealed one half of France to the other half, and it has been only when canvassed as a voter that the French peasant had made himself wholly known. To the natural timidity of the rural voters must be added their extraordinary ignorance, and also their most frequent indifference as to the result of the whole proceeding. That indifference was founded on very bad experience, coupled with hereditary resignation. One man, when canvassed, answered:—"I am an old man, Sir, and I know the law well. When my son is twenty years old I look at him as no more my own, but as appertaining to the State as a soldier. If by chance he is left to me, I consider it as an unexpected blessing, but never as something due." The lecturer was far from quarrelling with such a state of mind, which guaranteed the external safety of the land; but such rural opinions on the general policy, and on the result of a vote, were scarcely compatible with a sensible and profitable use of universal suffrage. A change was coming, however, in that respect, and had made itself to be felt already in some of the rural elections. The democratic party was now hitting hard at the taxes and the army. They had begun to impress on the mind of the rural voter that he could truly do something to throw off, or at least alleviate, that old yoke, and if that belief took hold of the peasant's mind universal suffrage would threaten the country with a new and unforeseen danger. It would be the increasing difficulty of purveying to the wants of the State. The French peasant was not at all a Socialist; and if he felt himself the master, as he lawfully and really was, he would be certainly the most avaricious of masters, and he will incline to treat the State as his celebrated countryman, the Gascon, treated his horse when he resolved that he would teach the poor animal to live without eating. Glancing next at a small French town, the lecturer said that the towns of second and third rate had this common character, that every class was living there apart, or secluded from the other, without being connected by any of those ties which the habit of public life and political intercourse had woven between the various classes in England. If there was in such towns a population of workmen, they live apart under Republican influences; the shopkeepers alike clubbed together, and formed the most reasonable, and most timid, and quiet part of the town. With these and other elements there were no associations and other useful works, enterprises, or meetings, and no trace whatever of that public life which was constantly stirring in British towns. There was, however, in these provincial towns, or rather above them, something which never changes nor moves, but which also never sleeps; it was the Catholic Church, much more powerful there than in the wholly rural districts. The power of the Catholic Church had been on the increase for thirty years or so, and the clerical influence had wonderfully progressed during that period among the same French *bourgeoisie*, upper and lower, which had formerly thrown off so decidedly its allegiance to the Catholic Church. It is deemed now in provincial life a blemish and a fault, not only if you were an opponent to the Church, but even if you were not reckoned among its supporters and friends, and the wealth of the Church has naturally increased. As to the cause of the great change in the moral and social situation of Catholicism in France, the lecturer said it was a political cause, for, in spite of all appearances, the political question had long dominated all other questions. Under the Government of King Louis Philippe, the well-known indifference of the State towards the Church let things take their natural course; and then many in the middle classes, being no more afraid of aristocratical or clerical influence, returned to religion, or began to ape the nobility by showing goodwill to the Church. But the most decided move of the upper and middle classes towards the Catholic Church had been determined by the resentment and fear which the revolution of February, 1848, and the threats of Socialism, had spread through the conservative part of the nation. It was the conservative reaction against socialism which had mostly revived clerical influence in France, and that Catholic feeling was so much excited by the events which occurred in Italy, and by the dangers to which the Papacy was exposed, that the Emperor was obliged to stop short, and to give up or postpone his designs as to the abolishment or transformation of the temporal power. But in the same manner as the conservative classes were induced to return to Catholic tendencies, the revolutionary classes and the democratic party at large, began again, as of old, to consider the Catholic Church as their most powerful and their bitterest enemy. The old struggle between the Revolution and the Catholic Church had arisen afresh, and was in no time so virulent as it was now. It was now a rule, and nearly a patriotic obligation, among Democrats, to forbid, by a last will, at their funeral those religious ceremonies which in Catholic countries were so important in the eyes of the public. Therefore, in spite of its moral and material progresses among the conservative classes, the Catholic Church was in danger when and if a new revolution came. Its best chance was, then, to be cut away from the State, and left free as well as unpaid; but there were chances also of its being, at least for a short time, treated as a public enemy, not as to its members, but as to its liberties and properties. That Church was a compound of moral greatness and moral miseries, and when looked at closely, it was easy to understand the admiration and devotion as well as the hatred it inspired. That Church asked from its ministers a self-denial

which might be considered as above the ordinary reach of mankind. It was an old saying of Pascal, that when we tried to be like angels we ran the risk of falling to the level of beasts. Well, sometimes that ideal goodness, that superhuman self-denial, is worked by the Catholic Church out of our human clay, and then the sight of such moral beauty is surprising and impressive even to the lightest mind. When a poor parish priest, in a rural district, is working for his flock in deep poverty, in cold solicitude, in silent charity, in the absolute deprivation of anything which can soften and alleviate the burden of human life, and when he is come really to that point of living only for his fellow-creatures, and not one moment for himself, we feel that the limits of natural virtue and of human goodness are rather overstepped, because self-denial is, after all, the true and singular privilege of our kind in this world, and the farther it goes, the nearer we come to that mysterious perfection which we feel vaguely to be our end. The Church kept its strength still in France because the conduct of the clergy was generally good; because the women, who were invested in France with a great social influence, were mostly and earnestly attached to the Church; and also because Christian and natural virtues, blended as they were with religion, enveloped and sustained the Catholic Church, as the ivy which clings with ever new and protective tenacity to some old and decaying construction. In France any change from one form of religious worship to another was of the greatest difficulty, because theological questions did not stand much before general attention, and religion in that country consisted much more in a religious feeling than in a clear and firm adhesion to such or such articles of faith. The lecturer then passed on to speak of Paris. As to the revolutions, it was true that the domination of Paris over the country in that special matter was unjust, when Paris itself was under the domination of its lowest classes, as it happened in 1793, and as it might have happened again if the Socialist insurrection of 1848 had unfortunately succeeded; but when a revolution was the common work of the various classes of the capital—as in 1830, for example—then Paris had been on such occasions the representative or executive power of French opinion. Paris, though not, as was too often believed, in the hands of its workmen, was not exclusively a pleasure town. It was the real capital and centre of pleasure-seekers from all parts of the world; but what made Parisian pleasure appear more domineering and more absorbing than it was, was that pleasure in Paris was surrounded with a wonderful publicity, without analogy in any other capital, and was more mingled and interwoven with intellectual and artistic amusement than in any other region of the earth, though it must be acknowledged that intellectual and artistic pleasure was never, or very seldom, separated in Paris from other and less noble amusements. If one wished at last to know where the true Paris lay, as concerns its real strength and ascendancy on the country, one must look above the working classes and directly under that external and brilliant cover called their pleasure world. There was the Parisian *bourgeoisie*, much more enlightened than the provincial middle classes, free from prejudices of any kind, active and thrifty, honest, intelligent, friendly to progress, sensible in all things, far from indifference to science, literature, and art, but well-tempered and well-ordered in all its tastes—in short, it was the moral reserve of their national good sense and national spirit. It was there that might be seen those especially general features of the national character which were to be found at various degrees but less distinct and less clear in the other classes. General prudence, and the desire not so much of wealth as of a quiet and sure competency, was the main feature of French temper. The children were loved in France with a tenderness often excessive, and the law of equal inheritance, which had become a part of the national character, rendered the Frenchman still more prudent, from the perpetual anxiety which he felt about the future of his family. Their marriage customs were to be attributed in a great measure to the constant wish of securing, as far as possible, the future state of the children against the results of equal partition. The inconveniences of that custom were well known; but, on the other side, we were not to believe one hundredth part of what was alleged by sensational novel writers or scandal-newspapers about the disordered state of French married life. The French family is far from being worse than elsewhere; and, as a rule, it is solid and holds fast through some troubles. First, the excessive love for children maintains and protects the family; then the impossibility of divorcing engages husband and wife to mutual indulgence and support; finally, the French women have generally a mind more clear than their heart is warm, and the same self-control which has enabled them to contract what is called a reasonable marriage enables them also to make the best of it. Our nation is, indeed, said the lecturer, in conclusion, a reasonable one, and much less led by fancy than has been said and believed. A Frenchman has seldom earnest or deep ambition either for real power or for wealth. He is rather ambitious for fame, for praise, for giving a lofty idea of himself to his countrymen, or even to his narrow circle; and he will be, in fact, consoled easily for many shortcomings if he know only that those around him believe his merit superior to his fortune. He is rather inclined to accept his fate, and to alleviate it by his lively temper, and by a happy faculty to enjoy any good thing which civilisation or nature may still bless him with. The name of philosopher, in its popular acceptance of a man easy to content, is more truly and more often deserved in our country than in any other land. If our passions are quick, they are short, and do not affect too deeply nor too long our freedom of judgment. And amongst those pleasures which my countrymen are so apt to enjoy, and which alleviate so much for them, even in adversity, the burden of life, I may give the first rank, with something like national pride, to the pleasures of the mind. France, as a whole, is fond of genius, especially in letters, and is wonderfully quick to mark out and to cheer on by public favour any writer who is likely to enlarge the mental enjoyments of the nation, or to add something to its fame. The chivalrous instinct of the nation, even when it lies dormant in dispirited times, is easily stirred up by the impression of that unequal fight, and comes to the rescue of the weak party who has enrolled justice and moral right on his side. I owe to that national tendency even the honour and pleasure of addressing you to-night; for how could my name have come over to you, and how could you have formed any wish to hear me, if that generous French spirit of which I was just speaking had not beforehand rewarded me with a repute so much above my merit? It is, therefore, with strict justice that I must couple here my grateful thanks for your kind and honourable reception of me with a respectful and heartfelt remembrance of the liberal spirit of my country."

TRADE OF 1868.—The Annual Statement of Trade and Navigation, now issued for 1868, gives the revised figures as follows:—Real value of the imports of merchandise into the United Kingdom from foreign countries, £227,700,061; and from British possessions, £66,993,547; making a total import of the value of £294,693,608, an amount exceeded only in the year 1866. Exports from the United Kingdom in 1868: Declared value of the exports of produce of the United Kingdom, £179,677,812, an amount exceeded only in 1866 and 1867; computed value of the exports of foreign and colonial produce, £48,109,642; making a total export amounting to £227,778,454. The total of imports and exports in 1868, therefore, was £522,472,062. The total in 1865 was £226,234,150; in 1860, £237,505,224; in 1865, £489,903,861; in 1866, £534,195,956; in 1867, £500,985,666.

DENSE FOG IN LONDON.—On Wednesday the metropolis and suburbs for many miles round were wrapped in one of the densest fogs which has been known for several years past. All shops, offices, and places of business were under the necessity of burning lights throughout the day, and in the West End the fog was, if possible, more dense than in the City. Upon the various railways, however, the trains ran in the usual order, and by the continuous explosion of fog-signals, working the telegraphs, and general precautionary measures, safe transit was secured. The passage of steamers and all other traffic on the river above bridge was entirely suspended, while the steam-boats from the Continent, as well as from Ireland, Scotland, &c., were delayed several hours in their arrival, and the outward bound could only make their way through the Pool with the utmost difficulty. One serious collision is reported; the *Active* lugger was run into by a brig off Barking and sunk, the crew, however, being saved. At the Crystal Palace, at half-past eleven o'clock p.m., the moon shone perfectly bright.

Literature.

The Sea-Board Parish. A Sequel to "The Annals of a Quiet Neighbourhood." By GEORGE MACDONALD, LL.D., Author of "Alec Forbes of Howglen," "Robert Falconer," &c. London: Strahan and Co.

The thickness of this cheap edition of one of the most noticeable of Mr. MacDonald's books brings vividly to the mind what could not and did not escape attention during the progress of the work in its serial form—viz., its amplitude. It is difficult, having anything of Mr. MacDonald's, to wish it away; and, of course, nobody sits down to read a book of this kind straight through; but certainly it does look as if, supposing this work had been revised for the press, some mere mechanical omissions might have been made with advantage. For example, the first chapter might go; and the talk about Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream;" and the quotations; and, perhaps, all the sermons (three, we think—two in church and one out). But Mr. MacDonald would, no doubt, answer that he is the best judge of the effect he intended to produce; and certainly the most important thing we have to say about the volume is that it gains upon us by frequently repeated reading of passages here and there: we mean passages of spiritual and moral analysis, and of description of nature constantly running up into poetry of all but the highest order. Here, Mr. MacDonald is alone, and unapproached by any living and, so far as we know, by any dead writer; nor are we sure that any one of his works contains more striking instances of his power in these directions than "The Sea-Board Parish."

Perhaps none of the other works of this remarkable writer contain so many splendid illustrations of his peculiar exhilarating and exalting power over readers who can apprehend him. What, if any, are the reactionary consequences of this, and whether the height and the ethical translucency are not obtained at the cost of "taking too much out of" one in another direction, are questions which we cannot enter into here; and which it would not be profitable to deal with, except upon a large campaign of discussion. At all events, this writer's "withers" would remain "unwring," whatever conclusion were arrived at in such a debate. He does his own work; there are not too many of such workers in the field; and we must trust for compensations, if they are needed, to workers of other tendencies.

To come to faults proper—for even Mr. MacDonald has faults, few as they are—has not his large public some claim upon him for a little revision of his writings as they are reissued? There may be such revisions in the "Sea-Board Parish," though we cannot find them; and, again, Mr. MacDonald may say that he considered the book too slight to be worth the labour. This would, in our opinion, be a great mistake; and we have not the smallest hesitation in saying, not only that there are things in the work which are distinctly parasitic, and could be sacrificed with advantage, but that there are faults which could be mended. Mr. Walton, like the ancient Romans, is too often victorious (though he gets a rub now and then). The extraordinary suddenness with which the characters rush at each other and suddenly plunge into the most serious, often the most profound, talk, is too much for the hypothesis of the book. It is just "Good morning," and a nod, and in six seconds you are up to your neck in the "Art of Nature," or something else that in real life nobody is ever thus suddenly plunged into. Take, again, the strange interview in Percival's studio—Wynnie, in love with Percival, saying, "But, surely, papa, Mr. Percival has some sense of duty?" an astounding question in Percival's presence; and met by the obliging answer, "Assuredly, my dear." The scene is impossible between two gentlemen and a lady; and not least of the impossibilities is that speech of the father to the daughter—"Now you are talking like a child, Wynnie; as, indeed, all partisans do, at their best." This speech is every way ungentlemanly. The girl's father would assuredly not have been so rude as to call her "a partisan" in the presence of her lover, unless he had put some pretty broad humour into the remark; perhaps not even then. The ease with which Mr. Walton obtains his victory is also much too conspicuous. A man like Percival must have had a good deal to say in defence of the pictures condemned. The passionate, perplexed anguish of such pictures need not "disseminate hopelessness." At all events, Percival might have taken that view, and held it long and bravely. To have made him say something good in self-defence would have rendered the scene more natural, and Mr. Walton's victory respectable. But it does not seem even to occur to Mr. Walton that other natures might take quite a different view of the question, and yet have truth on their side.

The little criticism on Mr. Tennyson's "I stood in a tower in the wet," cannot be passed over. Mr. MacDonald finds few people who like the poem, and he is rather inclined to attribute that to the influence of "comic publications." It is a great mistake to think that "comic publications" can do so much. He is himself not quite sure about "roaring and blowing" and "blowing and roaring" at the end. Well, we are; we are quite sure it is bad. But that is not the worst. The first line of the poem contains the commonplace phrase "in the wet." Now, poetry must always use select, however simple, language; and, as things stand nowadays, the colloquialism "in the wet" is quite unfit for the higher ranges of poetic expression. But, if it is an admitted canon that a poem should be perfect in proportion to its brevity, what must be the verdict on a song of a dozen lines which contains two faults, each of them tending to burlesque, though the key-note of the poem is very high? Mr. MacDonald's objection to the poem, on the ground that it contains no hope, seems to us as wrong as Mr. Walton's objections to Mr. Percival's pictures. There is hope—i.e., a passionate questioning, which strikes out hope in flashes—in such writing and in such pictures, if true. Is it not George Eliot who speaks of "the faith which comes as the nesting of despair"?

Complete Works of Edmund Spenser. Edited, from the Original Editions and Manuscripts, by R. MORRIS, Member of the Council of the Philological Society; with a Memoir by J. W. Hales, M.A., late Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, Member of the Council of the Philological Society. Globe Edition. London: Macmillan and Co.

There is not a single volume of Messrs. Macmillan's admirable Globe Editions that we would willingly part with, for every work included in the series has a distinct and special value. But, perhaps, the best service the publishers have yet rendered to the lovers of genuine poetry and real English classical scholarship is the issue of this excellent edition of "Spenser." The second father of English poetry and one of the most melodious as well as most imaginative and polished poets of this or any other land, Spenser is yet much less known to the bulk of readers than many authors who have infinitely slighter claims to attention. There is a notion entertained in some quarters that it is difficult to understand our three great early English poets—Chaucer, Spenser, and Shakespeare—from the change the language has undergone since they wrote; or we should rather say, perhaps, that this is put forward in some quarters as an excuse for ignorance of those poets. But we can assure lazy readers that there never was a greater mistake, so far, at least, as Shakespeare and Spenser are concerned. There is a show of truth in the allegation as respects Chaucer, perhaps. It does take a little study to be able to read him with ease; but only a little. One soon becomes accustomed to the seeming quaintness of the language he uses, and the meaning of his verse is mastered without effort. As regards Shakespeare, we never found any difficulty whatever—except, indeed, in trying to understand the explanations of commentators, who, even when we were young readers of the poet, seemed to us not unfrequently to make obscure what was in itself perfectly intelligible. Spenser, perhaps, is easier still both to read and to understand; and it is to us a marvel, consequently, how it is that so comparatively few of the class usually denominated "general readers"—that is, the great bulk of men—are familiar with his

writings, which are full to repletion with the finest images and the most purely poetic and lofty thoughts most melodiously expressed. It can scarcely be, however, that people will continue to deny themselves the intellectual treat provided by the author of "The Faerie Queene" when it is set before them in so attractive and easily-attainable a form as in this edition, so ably edited by Mr. Morris, and prefaced by so well-written a life as that supplied by Mr. Hales.

It is a remarkable coincidence that of the personal history of the three great fathers of English poetry named above so little should be known. Of Chaucer's life we have very few particulars; people have not yet given up controversy about the parentage and early years of Shakespeare; and as to Spenser we know little more, outside his own works, than that he was born in London, in or about the year 1552; that he was sprung from an old and honourable, though not then noble, family, his own immediate branch thereof being, as is supposed, settled in Lancashire; that he studied at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1573, and "commenced M.A." in 1576; that he was subsequently secretary to Lord Grey of Wilton, while Lord Deputy of Ireland, where Spenser also held the post of a clerk in Chancery at Dublin and clerk to the council of Munster; that he had a gift made to him of about 3000 acres of land in the county of Cork, which had formed a portion of the confiscated estates of the Earl of Desmond; that he resided for a time at the Castle of Kilkoman, where, it is believed, he wrote most of the greatest of his works, the "Faerie Queene;" that he was burned out of his house here and robbed of everything he possessed by the rebels; that he was the intimate friend of Sir Philip Sidney, as well as of Shakespeare, Essex, Leicester, Raleigh, and other distinguished men of that time, so prolific in men of eminence; and that he returned to London, where he died in 1598 or 1599, and was buried (at the expense of the Earl of Essex) near Chaucer, in Westminster Abbey. These are about all the facts obtainable from the ordinary biographical sources; but Mr. Hales, by a careful study of Spenser's works, has been able to elude a large amount of information regarding him, which, we are sure, will be read with the deepest interest. One little incident of the poet's life is given in Fuller's "Worthies of England," that is well worth quoting. He says:—

There passeth a story commonly told and believed, that Spenser presenting his poems to Queen Elizabeth, she, highly affected therewith, commanded the Lord Cecil, her treasurer, to give him an hundred pound; and when the treasurer (a good steward of the Queen's money) alleged that sum was too much, "Then give him," quoth the Queen, "what is reason." To which the Lord Cecil consented, but was so busied, belike, about matters of higher concernment that Spenser received no reward; whereupon he presented this petition, in a small piece of paper, to the Queen in her progress:—

I was promised a time,
To have reason for my rhyme;
From that time unto this season,
I received no rhyme nor reason.

Hereupon the Queen gave strict order (not without some check to her treasurer) for the present payment of the hundred pounds the first intended unto him.

In conclusion, we have only to say that if there be a lover of real poetry, or an admirer of the grand old English poets, who is long without a copy of Spenser on his shelves, he will be greatly to blame, when his works—thanks to Messrs. Macmillan and the two able gentlemen who have been collaborators in what must to them have been indeed a labour of love—can be procured in so cheap and so convenient a form as they are in this "Globe Edition."

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

The indications that Christmas is close at hand are now becoming strong in the book world. We have before us a pile of works suitable for the approaching season of gift-giving; but, as we cannot notice all at once, we give the preference to books specially adapted for the very young, and even to these we can devote no more than a passing word.

The names of three firms are prominent in connection with the books of this class now immediately under consideration—namely, Messrs. T. Nelson and Sons, Messrs. Routledge and Sons, and Messrs. F. Warne and Co. Amongst Messrs. Nelson's productions are two books belonging to a series explanatory of industries, tools, and implements of animals, which respectively ask and answer the questions, "Who was the first papermaker?" and "Who was the first weaver?" Then follows, among Sunday-School Reward-Books, the "Seven Churches of Asia: their History, and Past and Present Condition." Next to hand comes "Walter at the Seaside; or, Facts and Fancies about the Shore and the Deep," teaching a world of things on a theme that never becomes stale in boyish eyes. Following this are three little volumes of religious and moral tales, by Mrs. George Cupples, entitled respectively, "Carry's Rose; or, The Magic of Kindness;" "Alice Leighton; or, A Good Name is rather to be Chosen than Riches;" and "Hugh Wellwood's Success; or, Where There's a Will There's a Way." We do not suppose these are all new books, but they are all very neatly got up, and well adapted for presents for the little folk. Children of somewhat more advanced years—especially boys—have books provided for them likewise by Messrs. Nelson; but these we must reserve for another notice.

The last remark is also applicable to books published by Messrs. Routledge, from whose productions we only take very juvenile ones at present. These are "The Juvenile Party" and "The Fancy-Dress Ball," belonging to the series called "Aunt Mavor's Toy Books." Besides these are our old friends "Tom Thumb," "The Babes in the Wood," and "Jack and the Beanstalk," the whole being illustrated by coloured engravings. Of a superior order of book we have from Messrs. Routledge two very handsomely got-up volumes, the one being entitled "Ridiculous Rhymes," containing "Little Boy Blue," "Jack and Jill," "Humpty Dumpty," &c.; and the other "The Child's Picture-Book of Domestic Animals," with pictures and letterpress illustrative of the characteristics and uses of the horse, the cow, the sheep, the goat, the donkey, pet dogs, big dogs, rabbits, guinea-pigs, the cat, pigs, the pony, &c. These two last-named books are really very well worth having, and we advise juveniles who can manage it to become possessors of both. But, indeed, the same might be said of most others. Among so many the difficulty will be which to choose.

"Warne's Picture Puzzle Books" include "The Nursery Play-Book," "The House We Live In," and "Our Holidays," all profusely illustrated in colours. The same publishers also send us a handsome edition of Mrs. Trimmer's "Story of the Robins," with illustrations printed in colours from original designs; together with "Aunt Louisa's Nursery Favourite," including "Diamonds and Pearls," "Dick Whittington," "Lily Sweetbriar," "Uncle's Farmyard," with good engravings, well printed, and prettily bound.

RIMMEL'S ALMANACK for 1870, which has just made its appearance, is fully worthy of the charming little bits of art that have preceded it. It is beautifully executed, and sweetly scented, and is illustrated by portraits (fancy, of course) of heroines of English poets. The heroines selected are Juliet, Haydee, Ellen Douglas, Lalla Rookh, Evangeline, and Elaine, the creations respectively of Shakespeare, Byron, Scott, Moore, Longfellow, and Tennyson, and very prettily delineated are they all.

CUMBERLAND LODGE, Windsor Great Park, the residence of Lord Bridport, was seriously damaged by fire on Sunday morning, the state apartments being entirely destroyed.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—Arrangements are being made for an exhibition of great interest in the new rooms of the Royal Academy during the early months of the ensuing year. A committee of Royal Academicians is now busily at work collecting from the various private galleries in the kingdom a number of fine works of the old masters, which will be opened to the public in January. Thus, the old British Institution Exhibition will be adequately replaced, probably on a larger scale. The collection will also include as many of the works of Stanfield and Leslie as can be got together. The Academy have in their own possession a most important work, with which the general public have no opportunity of becoming acquainted—the copy, by Ugolino, of the *cenacolo* of "Leonardo da Vinci," made for the Cerastes of Paris—the most perfect memorial existing of the great and now dilapidated masterpiece.

OBITUARY.

VISCOUNT CANTERBURY.—Viscount Canterbury, who had been in a feeble condition for some time past, died last Saturday, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He was the eldest son of Mr. Manners Sutton, afterwards first Viscount Canterbury, who, from 1817 to 1831, was Speaker of the House of Commons, and who was raised to the peerage in March, 1835, after having been defeated by Mr. Abercromby in a contest for the Speakership. His Lordship is succeeded by his only brother, the Hon. Sir J. H. Manners Sutton, Governor of Victoria.

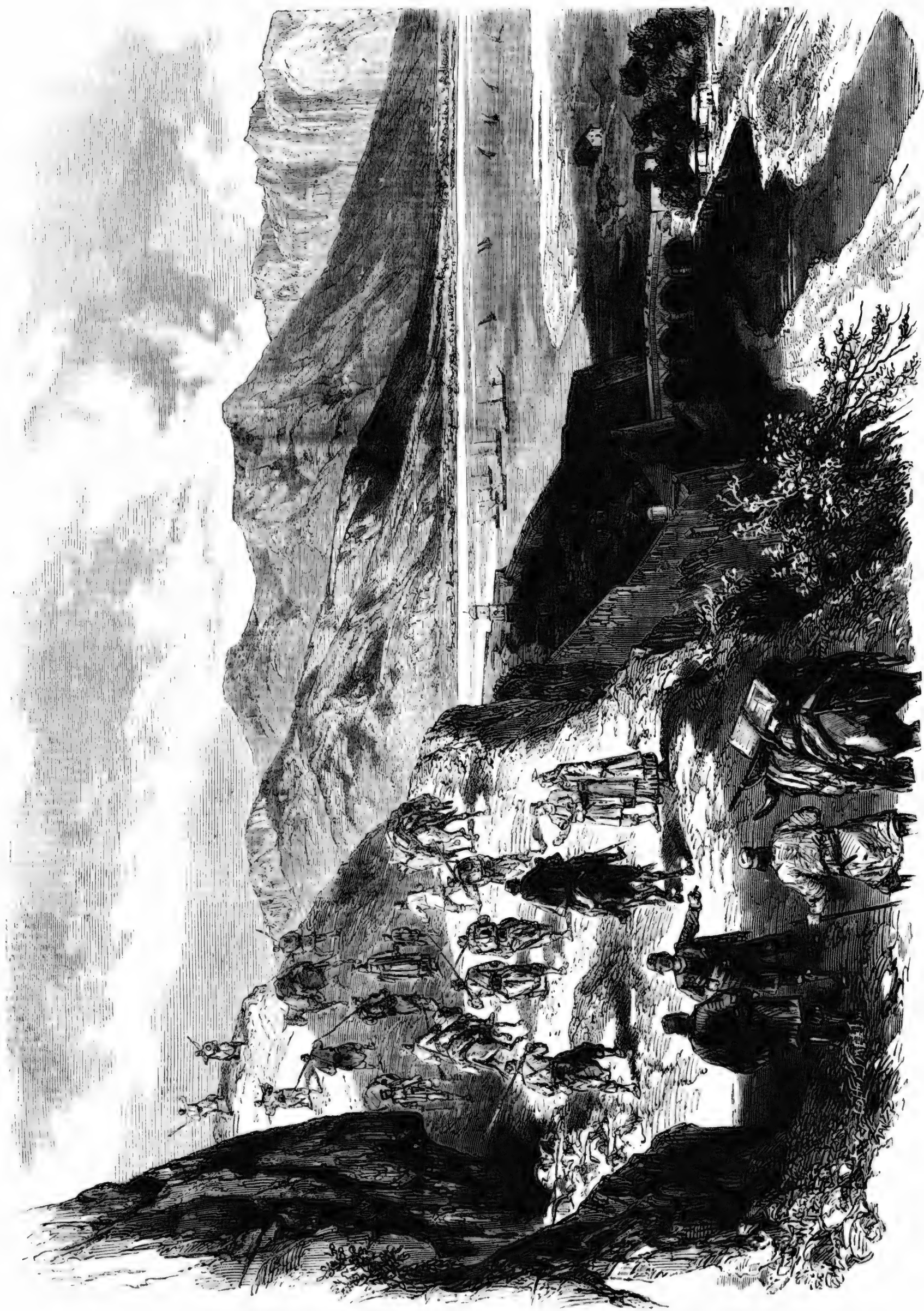
REAR-ADMIRAL WARDEN, C.B.—This gallant officer, who was in command on the Irish coast, died a few days ago, after a short illness. The deceased Admiral entered the service at an early age, and obtained his commission as Lieutenant in September, 1828; was promoted to Commander in 1838; and obtained post-rank in July, 1845. He was Commander of the *Medea*, serving on the coast of Syria, in 1840; and was engaged on active service during the Russian War. He for some time commanded the Channel squadron, and, on relinquishing that command, succeeded Rear-Admiral Claude H. M. Buckle, C.B., as senior officer on the coast of Ireland. In recognition of his services afloat he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in July, 1855. He obtained the rank of Rear-Admiral on Sept. 12, 1863. By the gallant officer's demise, Captain Sir William S. Wiseman, K.C.B., obtains flag rank, and thereby a Captain's good-service pension is placed at the disposal of the First Lord of the Admiralty.

GENERAL M'DONELL.—Brigadier-General M'Donell, commanding the Madras Northern District, died of apoplexy, at Madras, on the 17th ult. General M'Donell had only been in Madras four days, having arrived from Trichinopoly on the 13th. He entered the service in January, 1826, and in April last was appointed Brigadier-General of the second class, and to the command of the Southern District. Some two months ago he was promoted to the first class, and transferred to the Northern District. The late General was present with the force that marched from Bangalore, on April 8, 1857, to quell the insurrection in Canara; was employed in the suppression of the mutiny in Bengal, 1857-8-9; commanded the field detachment that proceeded from Dorandah to Chota Nagpore to subdue the insurgents; defeated the rebels in an engagement on Jan. 22, 1858, capturing four small field-pieces, totally routing the enemy, and killing their leader. He also served with the force under Major-General Whitlock, K.C.B., in Bundelcund; and commanded the infantry detachment that proceeded, in March, 1859, under Brigadier Paddy, against Runmust Singh.

SIR JAMES PRIOR, Kt.—The death of Sir James Prior, Kt., R.N., Deputy Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, on the retired list, took place, on Sunday last, at Brighton. Sir James, who was aged eighty-two, entered the medical service of the Navy at an early age; served on the eastern coast of Africa, the East Indies, Eastern islands, and Brazil; was for some time Flag Surgeon to Admiral Bertie; was present at the surrender of Heligoland; served in care of the wounded at the reduction of the Mauritius and Java; was, in 1814, ordered to accompany the 1st Regiment of Imperial Russian Guards from Cherbourg to St. Petersburg; in 1815 was employed on the coast of La Vendée; was present at the surrender of Bonaparte; was for several years Staff Surgeon to the Chatham Division of the Royal Marines; to three of the Royal yachts; and as assistant to the Director General of the Medical Department of the Navy. He had been a Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets since Aug. 1, 1843. He had received the naval medal. For his services he was created a Knight Bachelor in 1858. The deceased was son of Mr. Matthew Prior, of Lisburn, and married, first, in 1817, the relict of Mr. E. James (which lady died in 1841); and secondly, in 1847, the relict of Mr. Charles Watson. He was author of several professional papers; likewise of a "Voyage in the Indian Ocean," "Life of Burke," "Life of Goldsmith," some poems, &c.

THE REV. W. HARNES.—We regret to record the sudden death of the Rev. William Harnes, Incumbent of All Saints, Knightsbridge, and Prebendary of St. Paul's. He was in his eightieth year, and was one of the last links which united the present generation with the literary era which shone in the earlier decade of this century. During his school days at Harrow he became intimate with Lord Byron, and their friendship was only terminated by death. If any could doubt whether Byron was capable of true and noble feeling, this brotherly attachment, equally honourable to both, would be a sufficient answer; and it is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the extent of their correspondence, the maligned poet never wrote a single line to him "which might not have been addressed to the most delicate woman." Many of these letters are published in Moore's "Life of Byron." Mr. Harnes indignantly repudiated the charge lately brought against his friend, and considered that Lady Byron entirely misunderstood his erratic but not unamiable character. On leaving Christ's College, Cambridge, Mr. Harnes was ordained to the Curacy of Kilmerton, and made himself so happy with his books and country duties that only the earnest representations of his family rescued his talents from obscurity, and placed him in a more prominent position. He then became Incumbent of Regent-square Chapel, St. Pancras, where his liberal views and genial temperament made him beloved by all. He sought to persuade men by setting forth the beauty of godliness—by dwelling more upon the promises than the threats of Scripture; and he had a powerful aid to his eloquence in his own consistent life and character. In doctrine he avoided extremes, and always expressed his wish to preserve the services of the Church in the "old way" to which he had been from youth accustomed. Nor was he neglectful of parochial labours. He wrote a pamphlet on district visiting, and contributed to the newspapers some useful information concerning societies formed for that purpose. While at St. Pancras he was appointed Clerical Registrar by Lord Lansdowne; and, after twenty years, he undertook, at the suggestion of Dean Milman, to build the Church of All Saints, Knightsbridge, he himself being the principal contributor. Success attended his efforts, but his liberality prevented his reaping any pecuniary advantage, so well were all in his employment remunerated, and so unwilling was he to call for any assistance from the congregation. He had this year expended a large sum on repairing and decorating the church. Mr. Harnes was not unknown in the field of literature. His edition of "Shakespeare" was well received and has become scarce; and he was at different periods a contributor to the *Quarterly*, and to *Fraser's* and *Blackwood's Magazines*. His last undertaking was writing the introduction to the "Life of Mary Russell Mitford," which he just lived to see published.

THE SAVILIAN PROFESSOR OF ASTRONOMY AT OXFORD.—Mr. William Fishburn Donkin, M.A., Professor of Astronomy, Honorary Fellow of University College, F.R.S., died on Tuesday morning, after a lingering illness, at his residence, Broad-street, Oxford. Mr. Donkin succeeded Mr. George Henry Sacheverel Johnson, M.A., of Queen's College, to the Professorship in 1842. The endowment of the professorship is £400 per year, and is open to persons of every nation, provided they are of good reputation, eminently well versed in mathematics, have a tolerable knowledge of Greek, and are twenty-six years of age. If they are Englishmen they must be of the degree of Master of Arts at least. The electors are the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, the Chancellor of the University, the Bishop of London, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the two Chief Justices, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, the Dean of the Arches, and the Warden of New College, taking into their counsel the Vice-Chancellor of the University. These illustrious persons are solemnly conjured by the founder to seek for the ablest mathematician in other countries as well as our own, and, without regard to particular universities or nations, to elect those whom they shall deem best qualified for the office. On a transmission of their choice the person so elected is admitted by the University in congregation.



THE REVOLT IN DALMATIA: AUSTRIAN TROOPS MARCHING FROM CATTARO AGAINST THE INSURGENTS.

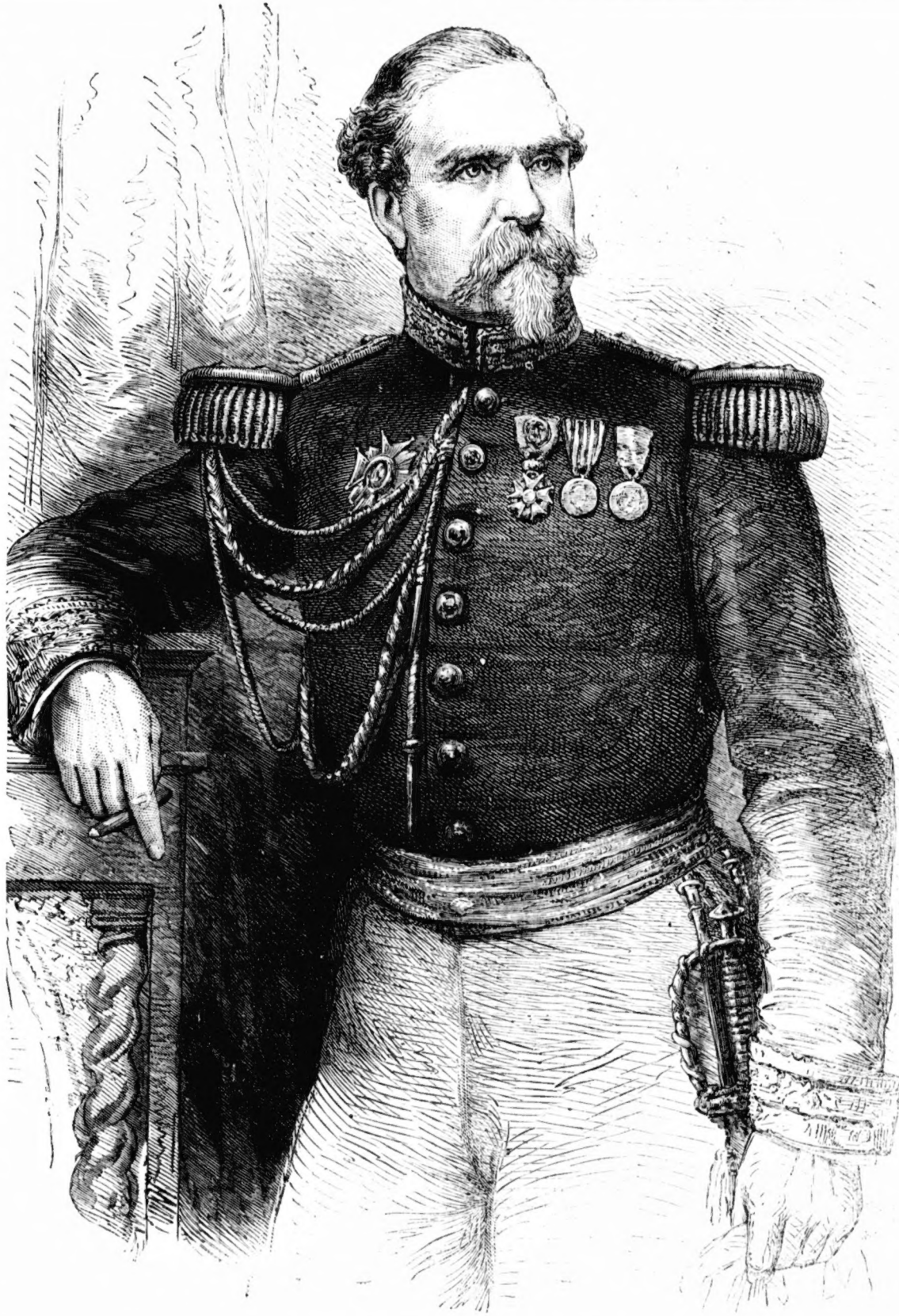
GENERAL FLEURY.

GENERAL EMILE FELIX FLEURY, who has just been appointed to represent his Sovereign at the Court of St. Petersburg, was born in Paris, Dec. 23, 1815. He studied at the College Rollin, but, having met with pecuniary reverses, accepted an engagement in 1837 in the corps of Spahis, then of recent creation, and subsequently took part in eleven campaigns in Algeria, during which he was three times wounded and five times commended in "Orders of the Day." His advancement was consequently rapid. He became Sub-Lieutenant in 1840, Captain in 1844, and Chef d'Escadron in 1848, when he returned to France. He embraced with ardour the Bonapartist interest, and was wounded in the head in the disturbances which followed the coup d'état, a movement in which it is said he took a prominent, if not actually a leading, part. On the establishment of the empire he was nominated Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor, Colonel of the Guides, and Grand Equerry of the Crown. He became a General of Brigade in 1856, and has, until his recent appointment, occupied a prominent post in the Imperial household.

THE INSURRECTION IN DALMATIA.

WITHIN the last few days various items of news have come to hand from Dalmatia, which, whilst confirming the complete subjection of the Zappa and the Maina, bring at the same time the intelligence of a rising in the west of the Boccha and in the neighbourhood of Castelnuovo and Risano. This tends to show that as soon as one district has been subdued and pacified by the military, the revolt breaks out afresh in another, which gives the whole insurrectionary movement the character of a regular guerrilla warfare. Hence the Brigade Simic (formerly Brigade Fischer), which had returned to Cattaro to recruit itself, was dispatched with all speed and its full complement, to Castelnuovo and Risano. The whole movement, it would appear, is taking a north-westerly direction.

Considerable reinforcements continue to arrive at Cattaro from Trieste. On the 9th and 10th inst. two steamers landed several thousand additional troops, mostly riflemen. Regiment Hartung, No. 47, of the garrison of Zara, has also received orders to proceed to Risano, in order to join the corps of operation encamped there. A mountain battery and engineer and sanitary companies are being dispatched to that spot likewise, and preparations are being made for establishing a field-hospital. On the heights of Dubovica and



GENERAL FLEURY, THE NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO ST. PETERSBURG.

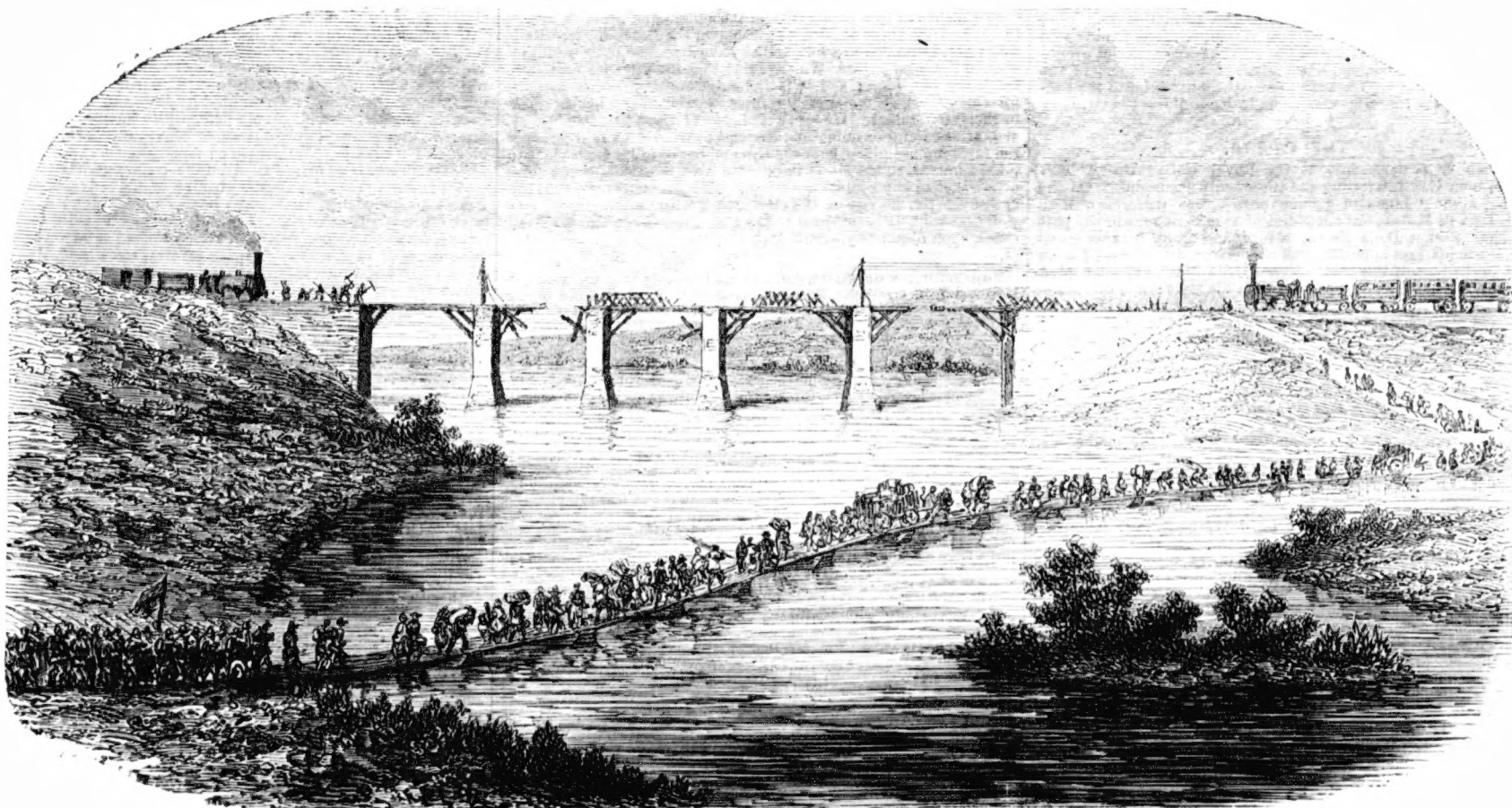
Gorazda, about an hour's distance from the fortress of Cattaro, new watch block-houses are erected.

The Equipment Commission at Graz has been instructed to dispatch, with as little delay as possible, 2000 complete suits of uniforms and other regimentals to Cattaro, since the equipment of the troops has been very much reduced during the late engagements. All these preparations prove that an imposing force is being concentrated at Cattaro and Risano for further operations in the direction of Cerkevica and Dragalj, the northern rebellious districts. Risano will very likely form the centre of the operations; to which place, most probably, also, the head-quarters, which were established at Cattaro, will be transferred.

In the west, a place called Basic (or Baosic, as it is spelled on the map), to the north of the Canale-di-Cattaro, near Kombar, in the district of Castelnuovo, was threatened with an attack by the insurgents during the night of the 9th and 10th inst. The gun-boat Mive shelled the insurgents from the coast, and a detachment of Jagers was dispatched from Castelnuovo to the relief of the menaced place. The official telegram stated that the inhabitants were terrorised over by but "a small number of rebels," and expressed the opinion that on the whole the people are inclined to submit peaceably to the constituted authorities. The attack, however, seems to have been repeated, as information has been received since that time to the effect that the war-steamer Kerka bombarded Basic during the night of the 11th and 12th.

A patrol sent on the 10th from Fort Kosmac to Braic was attacked by the insurgents. The Imperial troops lost several men, and their leader, Pillmann, was severely wounded. The insurgents were driven back into the mountains, leaving five dead and several wounded behind.

Before commencing his active operations against the insurgents in the north, the military commander, Count Auersperg, is endeavouring to induce the insurgents to surrender peacefully. For this purpose District Captain von Frantz, of Cattaro, was dispatched on a mission to Castelnuovo in order to ascertain the state of public feeling in the neighbouring districts. He was also empowered to enter into negotiations for submission with the deputies and elders sent to Castelnuovo by the communes of the surrounding districts. The people, it would seem, are peaceably inclined, for it is stated that all the places from Castelnuovo to Cattaro have hoisted white flags along the coast as a sign of their submission, and an official telegram announces that the voluntary submission of the



RAILWAY BRIDGE NEAR BARCELONA BROKEN BY THE REPUBLICANS DURING THE LATE RISING.

insurgents, and the surrender of their arms, in the mountain villages around Castelnuovo and Ubi appears more than probable, and that negotiations are taking place to that effect with the elders of the respective communities. In fact, several communes have already offered to surrender, but stipulating that they might be permitted to retain their arms—a condition which was of course refused.

The armed insurrectionary bands in the neighbourhood of Castelnuovo, Zepa, and other places, are reported to be very numerous, and it is more than probable that they have been joined by some of the dispersed bands of the Zuppa. The rebels in the district of Crivosic, who had not been molested for several days, were beginning to be bold and audacious. On the 8th they attacked a village in the neighbourhood of Risano, and carried off all the cattle. They rob and plunder wherever they set their foot. The soldiers made captive by them are treated in the most barbarous manner. A letter from Risano relates horrible acts of cruelty perpetrated against the soldiers who have had the misfortune to fall into their hands; they are shockingly mutilated by them, and even the dead and wounded are not exempt from their most revolting treatment. The subjection and pacification of the Crivosic, therefore, will be no easy matter of accomplishment.

The letter-carrier of the rebels of Zuppa has delivered himself up to the district captain. He related that the inhabitants, enticed by their Popes, are destroying their villages and shelters, and departing to the mountains. The leaders of the insurrection, Radanovic and Vuk Kalugjerovic—cousins of the Prince of Montenegro—are said to be comfortably secure in Montenegro.

The ex-Podesta of Castelnuovo, Jovanovic, who has gravely compromised himself, has been sent for trial to the civil tribunals. A namesake of the pacificator Giurcovic, the *alter ego* of the Podesta of Risano, has been arrested, and is now in the custody of the court-martial to be tried for high treason.

On the 5th three peasants of Risano were executed at Cattaro. They had been taken while rolling huge stones on the troops from the mountain heights. The court-martial will proceed to Budua to try the captured insurgents imprisoned there. Among those who were arrested in the Zuppa there are two priests, Father Radanovic and Father Jukic. During the last few years the lower clergy have taken an active and conspicuous part in the political agitation. With the exception of those in the coast district of the Boccha-di-Cattaro, where the Greek priests possess a superior education, the clergy are rude and full of prejudices, whilst their sympathies are entirely with Russia and Montenegro. Many dress in the costume of the peasants, go about armed, and, with the exception of exorcism and witchcraft, they are utterly ignorant. Some even consider it an article of faith that he who takes no revenge will not be saved.

During the recent fights the Montenegrins guarded the frontier pretty closely, and thus prevented, to some extent, the insurgents from crossing into their territory. The Prince of Montenegro, besides, sent a circular to his consuls at Scutari and Ragusa, in which he communicated to them the resolutions passed by the Senate of Montenegro, strictly prohibiting the people from taking part in the Dalmatian revolt, and ordering a military cordon to be formed along the frontier, and the disarmament and escort into the interior of all insurgents who should take refuge in Montenegrin territory.

The latest telegrams state that, with some few exceptions, the mountain villages of Castelnuovo and Ubi have announced their surrender; Krivosche and Ledence are still refractory. The last appeal to the insurgents to submit having proved ineffectual, the Imperial troops commenced marching forward on Tuesday, in four columns, against the district of Krivosche. The insurgents are partially retreating and partially being driven back by the advancing columns.

THE INSURRECTION IN SPAIN.

We have already published several Engravings from sketches of the principal scenes of the Spanish insurrections; and we still receive, from week to week, pictorial records of the struggle. Valencia has been the chief scene of the Republican movement; and there, for several days, the insurgents had it their own way at the principal points of the town—the garrison being composed only of a few volunteers, without strength enough even to act completely on the defensive. It was not till the Captain-General received the reinforcements for which he had been waiting that it was possible to commence the attack. Among these reinforcements was the brigade of Palacio, from Barcelona, and several regiments from Castile. A fierce attack on the bridge of Serranos was one of the first operations of the troops; and at this point, where the struggle was three times renewed, the conflict was most sanguinary, each side fighting with desperate energy. During the day of Oct. 15 the Government troops remained masters of the position, but the engagement was not finished. In order to put an end to it, the Captain-General opened a bombardment on a portion of the town, after having vainly called on the insurgents to surrender. It is estimated that 700 projectiles were fired between nine in the morning and three o'clock in the afternoon; and the rebels did not retreat until four o'clock, by which time many victims had fallen amidst the ruins of the quarter in which they had gathered their forces. It was fortunate that affairs at Barcelona, where the revolution had been raging, had assumed a quieter aspect, so that reinforcements could be spared for service in Valencia, but in the former district events had been equally grave, and much mischief was done, one of the most serious acts of the insurgents being the destruction of the railway bridge on the line from Barcelona to Madrid over the Cardona.

THE OPERA.

The winter performances at the Royal Italian Opera have hitherto been very interesting and thoroughly successful. On the opening night "Lucia di Lammermoor" was performed, with Mdlle. Ilma di Murska—the maddest of mad heroines—in the part of Lucia. Signor Della Rocca, a new and quite inexperienced tenor, made his first appearance on the boards of the Royal Italian Opera in the part of Edgardo. Signor Della Rocca has some good natural gifts, but his voice is better than his style; and of him, as of so many singers and artists of all kinds, it may be said that with study and practice he will probably improve. Mdlle. Di Murska on this occasion made some of her finest flights, and during the mad scene became not only perfectly insane herself, but also excited much frantic enthusiasm on the part of the audience. She was in good voice, and sang with much expression throughout the opera, her delivery of Lucia's solo passages in the admirable concerted finale in act ii. being full of pathos. But her great triumph, as may be supposed, was in the mad scene. Signor Cotogni represented Ashton in generally commendable style. It is not often, however, that this artist rises above the level of mediocrity. The horns, as usual, were rather wild in the short but very beautiful introduction to the final scene of the third act; but the orchestra, generally, did its duty, under the fortunate auspices and able direction of Signor Arditi.

"The Magic Flute" was the second opera represented. This masterly and melodious work was in all respects well performed. Mdlle. Titiens's Pamina was especially admirable—this, indeed, being one of several great characters in German opera which Mdlle. Titiens alone can represent. At least as great a success, in its way, was Mr. Santley's Pagano, a part abounding in beautiful music, which, it need scarcely be said, was sung to perfection by our great baritone. A new basso, Signor Antonucci, made his first appearance as the high priest Sarastro. He was very nervous, his voice was tremulous, and he sang "flat" throughout the evening. Mr. Lyall's "Monostatos" was, as usual, an admirable little study. Mdlle. Sinico was lively and intelligent as the birdcatcher's wife. The representatives of the geni of various kinds—including in particular the three attendants of the Queen of Night—went through their music satisfactorily. But the great attraction of the evening was the performance of the Queen of Night herself as impersonated by Mdlle. Ilma di Murska. The fair

Hungarian with her flexible voice and agile execution did wonders in the two grand airs, was recalled after both, and compelled by continued applause to repeat the first. To complete our brief account of this excellent representation, the merits of which seemed to be fully appreciated by a numerous audience, we must not omit to mention that Signor Gardoni was a very efficient Pamina. He acted in good taste and sang what little music he has to sing to perfection.

Of the performance of "Don Giovanni" (Monday) we will say nothing, for the insufficient reason, as some may think, that we did not hear it. On Tuesday, however, we "assisted" at a very creditable performance of "Hamlet," with Mdlle. Ilma di Murska as Ophelia, a part she assumed that evening for the first time. Without making us forget Mdlle. Nilsson, Mdlle. Ilma di Murska's presentation of the character was interesting, dramatic, and marked by something of that originality which distinguishes all this lady's impersonations. We continue to regard the opera of "Hamlet" as one of the dreariest productions of modern times; but Ophelia's last scene, thanks to the Swedish melodies imported into it, and which form its very substance, is a charming composition. The librettist's idea of dramatising Shakespeare's description of Ophelia's death was, to begin with, a happy one; and the idea, poetically conceived, has been artistically rendered. We regretted, however, to find that many of the details of the last scene were, in painter's phrase, "scamped." The opera in the Anglo-Italian version now terminates, and terminates properly, with the death of Ophelia.

CATTLE-DEALERS AND RAILWAY COMPANIES.

We have observed with much satisfaction that at the York County Court, last week, a cattle-dealer obtained £40 damages from the North-Eastern Railway Company as compensation for injuries received by his beasts while in the railway-trucks for conveyance from Howden to York. These injuries were produced by causes which could have been prevented, and the nature of which has been repeatedly exposed in these columns. The trucks are roughly constructed, without any buffers, springs, or provision to prevent the shock of a collision, and the flooring is slippery and does not afford good standing-hold. The engine was a dilapidated, tinkered-up machine, which only worked by fits and starts, and the trucks filled with cattle seemed to have been repeatedly shunted, jammed, knocked about, and run against other trucks, with, of course, the natural results. Howden is about twenty miles distant from York, but rather more by rail. Passengers have to make a detour by Selby, Milford Junction, and Church Fenton, so that the journey occupies about two hours. According to the evidence, the beasts were required to be at Howden station before two p.m., and fifty heads were placed in five trucks. The train did not leave till four, or, as the guard affirms, till five, and shortly after an engine ran into it, and the shock was pretty sharp. After this the train went very badly. At Selby it was detained an hour and a half. The dealer went to examine his cattle, and found several were down. He got them up, but at Church Fenton the same thing had occurred. The driver said the engine was in such bad trim that he could hardly start it, and the difficulty seems to have been entirely owing to its defective state. On arrival at York, between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m., several beasts were down and one appeared to be dead. It requires, of course, a very severe shock to throw a four-legged animal down; but once down, in a crowded truck, there is no chance of its being able to get up without assistance, and there is a very great probability of its being trampled on and injured by its companions. Now that the use of the improved cattle-trucks has proved so successful, it is quite clear that this sort of ill-usage and cruelty is unnecessary. Certain simple improvements might be made with ease and adapted without much expense even to the trucks now in use; but to continue to carry cattle in them any longer after this fashion will most assuredly be inexpedient, and to the pockets of the shareholders highly detrimental. The successful action brought against this company will be followed by others if the same causes are kept in operation; and it is well known that, within the last six months, the North-Eastern directors have a very pretty crop of cases for compensation on their hands for injuries sustained by passengers as well as animals. Not that the experience of the past at all warrants the idea that this company will deal either wisely or liberally in the matter. It is a wealthy, large, and powerful body, with an annually-increasing traffic. It enjoys a monopoly of the north-east and coast line, and reaps enormous sums by the conveyance of coal, iron, lead, and other minerals. Yet it is notorious for its bad faith and niggardly conduct. It has not adopted the block system or any means of communication between passengers and guards. The fares are very high, and the second and third class carriages remarkably shabby and dirty. Some little time ago, owing probably to a recent accident, it was announced with a flourish of trumpets that the directors were about to adopt an improved system of points; yet last Wednesday week there was an accident at Darlington with the old, or "facing points," and a train thrown off the line and detained for an hour. Two days before that, near Boroughbridge, the engine attached to a train had got safely over a pair of facing points, and how the points acted it is difficult to guess; but, at any rate, they caught the wheels of the tender with such violence as to separate it from the engine and upset it across the line. Both these accidents occurred on the North-Eastern Railway; but, as no one was killed, they have attracted little attention even in the local papers. We have said that the rates for passenger traffic are very high; and it is the only company which, perhaps for this reason, systematically refuses to publish any list of fares in their time-tables. We speak with one of these books before us, and, after careful examination, it seems to us evident that not only the fares are not given, but even the number of miles from place to place omitted, so that it is impossible even to calculate the price of a ticket to any particular station. The passengers are thus left entirely to the mercies of the clerks, with what results can be very well guessed. It is sufficient to say that there is not the slightest check upon dishonesty.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE CONDITION OF WOOLWICH.—At the last meeting of the Woolwich local board of health Mr. Kneggs observed that, in consequence of the closing of the dockyard, a great deterioration had taken place in the value of house property, but he was glad to say that it had not increased the local burdens. He had ascertained that the board of guardians were relieving a less number of the poor than at the corresponding period of last year, and there was no reason to apprehend any increase in the rates. The decrease of pauperism by getting rid of some 5000 or 6000 of the Government workpeople showed that the Government establishments brought a large amount of pauperism with them.

LONDON BRIDGE.—The effect of closing the carriage-way of London Bridge on Monday last for the purpose of having it repaved has been to change in a remarkable degree the usual appearance of certain thoroughfares, and to cause a great displacement of cab, omnibus, and wagon traffic. The effect can be realised at no point so fully as at Southwark Bridge, which is not usually the avenue for much traffic, chiefly on account of its steep approaches. The bridge has been since Monday either constantly being blocked up with vehicles or crowded with them as they pass over. Southwark-street, Queen-street, Cannon-street, and Cheapside have had a large amount of traffic added to that which they have been in the habit of accommodating. The routes of omnibuses have been altered, and some of those running south of the Thames finish their journey on that side of the river, instead of proceeding, as formerly, to Cornhill.

A REFRACTORY PRECATOR.—A scene was witnessed in South Leith parish church on Sunday evening, which has been freely commented on by the parishioners and others. Mr. Duff was the officiating clergyman, and Mr. Wilson occupied the precator's desk. After the initiatory part of the service, the rev. clergyman read a psalm, and intimated that it would be chanted to a tune named by him. The precator rose, but instead of adopting the tune named by the minister, commenced another. The minister, indignant, rose and asked the precator to cease singing, but the latter would not do so; and the minister, becoming impatient, descended the pulpit stairs, confronted the precator, and in an earnest, if not angry tone, demanded that the chanting should not be proceeded with. Not a few of the congregation laughed, while others went out. The altercation having come to an end, the minister took his place in the pulpit and delivered an impressive sermon. Towards the close of the service Mr. Duff intimated that, owing to the conduct of the precator, there would be no more singing that evening.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SCARLATINA.

THE great prevalence of the disease at the present time makes the following "Precautions against Scarlatina," issued by the Medical Department of Privy Council, of special importance:—

In every case where scarlatina prevails or threatens to prevail in a district (as, indeed, wherever there is prevalence or threatening of any other epidemic disease) it is of more than common importance that, both by private action and by action of local authorities, everything practicable should be done to ensure freshness of atmosphere, and dryness of soil, and entire absence of dirt throughout the district, especially in and about houses, and to guard against overcrowding of inhabitants, and to provide that impure water be not drunk. It is, of course, particularly necessary that such district inspections as are ordered by section 20 of the Sanitary Act, 1866, should be frequently and carefully made by the nuisance authority, and that whatever proceedings are required to procure the abatement of nuisances should be pressed with all practicable dispatch. Local authorities and the public ought also to bear well in mind the contagiousness of scarlatina, and the precautions which that property of the disease renders necessary. Each patient who has scarlatina, whether in a severe or in a slight degree, makes round him an atmosphere in which other persons, if they have not previously had the disease, are very likely to become infected with it. Also, where death occurs, the body of the patient, while unburied, continues a centre of infection. The property of infectiousness attaches probably more or less to all matters which pass from the body of the patient during his disease and convalescence; but, doubtless, it belongs especially to those matters which come from the throat and nose, and from the skin, of the patient—the former in foul fluid and solid discharge, and tainting the breath of the patient; the latter, particularly represented in the flakes and grains of dry skin which, after the first few days of the disease, begin to be shed in the so-called peeling or desquamation. During the illness of the patient infectious particles of these sorts are plentifully diffused in the air round about him, abound in his clothes and bedding, and may attach more or less to all objects in the room. If left to themselves they preserve their infectiousness for very long periods of time; so that, for instance, handkerchiefs which have been used to the patient's mouth and nose, and bedding and clothing which contain the branlike dust from his skin, and in various degrees all things which have been in use in the room, and the dress of persons who have attended there, may, for an indefinite time, be sources of danger. And it is by reason of particles of this kind still hanging about the persons of convalescents, or remaining attached to their clothes, that the contagion of the disease is so persistent. In taking precautions against the spread of scarlatina, the above points have to be applied, as far as practicable, as follow:—

Every person who sickens with the disease should at once be removed from among the healthy; and, if his circumstances do not permit of this being done in his own home, he ought to be treated in hospital. The room to be used as sick-room should be divested of every unnecessary thing to which fluff and dust are likely to attach. The room should be thoroughly well ventilated (as by windows and chimney) directly from and into the open air. Persons in attendance on the sick should be persons who already have had the disease. Between the sick-room and the rest of the house there should be no unnecessary intercourse. In the room and on the person of the patient every practicable disinfection should be practised without delay. Some strong disinfectant fluid should always be in use in the room for the various occasions which arise, with reference to the discharges and utensils of the sick and the hands of the attendants. Handkerchiefs and other like articles, as soon as fouled by the patient, should be well scalded with boiling water, or immersed in the disinfectant fluid; and bedding, and other like articles which cannot be treated thus extemporaneously, should be removed, suitably packed, to the place where they can be otherwise disinfected. It is believed that the dispersion of contagious dust from the patient's skin is impeded by keeping his entire body (including limbs, and head, and face) constantly anointed with oil or other grease; and some practitioners also believe this treatment to be of advantage to the patient himself. When the patient's convalescence is complete, the final disinfection of his surface should be effected by warm baths, with abundant soap, taken on three or four successive days, till no trace of roughness of the skin remains. After this process, and with clean clothes, he may be deemed again safe for association; but previously to this, however slight may have been his attack, he ought always to be regarded as dangerous to persons susceptible of scarlatina. This caution is of particular importance with regard to schools; and the neglect of it when children return to school after they have had slight scarlatina is often a principal source of epidemic infection in districts. Intercourse from houses in which there is scarlatina with other houses should not be more than necessary; especially children from infected houses (who often may themselves be breeding the disease) should not be allowed to frequent schools and other assemblages of young people. The bodies of persons dead of scarlatina should be buried with the least possible delay, and should not ever, in the mean time, be kept in rooms inhabited by living persons. When scarlatina has ended in a house, the sick-room should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before being again used by healthy people.

Under the Sanitary Act, 1866, penalties are recoverable from persons who wilfully do certain actions which tend to spread dangerous contagious disease—viz., any person who, while suffering from such a disease, enters any public conveyance without notifying to the owner or driver that he is so suffering, or wilfully exposes himself, without proper precautions against spreading the disorder, in any street, public place, or conveyance, or who, being in charge of a child or other person so suffering, so exposes the sufferer; any owner or driver of a public conveyance who does not immediately provide for the disinfection of his conveyance after it has, to his knowledge, conveyed a person so suffering; any person who, without previously disinfecting, gives, lends, sells, transmits, or exposes any bedding, clothing, rags, or other things which have been exposed to infection from such disorders; and, lastly, any person who knowingly lets any house, room, or part of a house, in which any person suffering from a dangerous contagious disorder has been, without having disinfected the same to the satisfaction of a medical practitioner, to be tested by a certificate. Under the same Act large powers are given to local authorities for the purposes of preventing the spread of contagious disorders—viz., to cause any infected house or part of a house to be cleansed and disinfected; and to provide a proper place, with all necessary apparatus and attendance, for the disinfection of articles (such as clothing or bedding) which have become infected, and to cause any articles brought for the purpose to be disinfected free of charge. Powers are also given to provide hospitals, either temporary or permanent, and carriages for the conveyance to them of the sick; and to provide places for the reception of dead bodies. Where a hospital for the reception of the sick has been provided within a district, a justice, on application, may order any person suffering from a dangerous contagious disorder, and being without proper lodging or accommodation, or lodged in a room occupied by more than one family, to be removed to such hospital at the cost of the local authorities; and where a mortuary has been provided, the removal to it of dead bodies, at the cost of the local authorities, may, in certain cases, also be ordered.

Chemical disinfectants are of two great classes, and hitherto it is not certain which of the two classes acts best. The one class is well represented by chlorine and its compounds; the other is well represented by carbolic acid. Under the one system the solution of chloride of lime may be used for minor domestic purposes, and chlorine gas for disinfection of rooms. Under the other system carbolic acid may be used for minor domestic purposes, and sulphurous acid gas for disinfection of rooms. These systems do not combine well with one another; and in the choice which has to be made between them it will be convenient that the local authority should declare which of the two systems it adopts, and that all private disinfection in each district should follow such lead of the

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